

PLAVTI



RVDENS

T · MACCI ·



PLAVTI

RVDENTEM

FABVLAM · PALLIATAM

IN · IV · ACTVS · DIVISAM

AGET · GREX · MACGILLIANVS

A · D · XI · X · KAL · MART

LAETISSIMO · BRITANNICI · IMPERII · ANNO

QVO · DVODECIMVM · CLAUSIT

VICTORIA · REGINA

LVSTRVM



II · VIRI · LVDIS · SCAENICIS · { DONALDVS · A · SMITH
EDVNDIS · SVNT · . { GVLIELMVS · PETERSON

CVRATORES · LVDOIVM · . . { A · IVDSO · EATON
CAROLVS · E · MOYSE
IOHANNES · COX
S · BENIAMIN · SLACK

PHONASCVS · FRANCISCVS · CARTER

DIDASKALOS · MVSICVS · . . CAROLVS · HENRICVS · GOVLD

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SCAENICI · ACTORES.

ARCTVRVS · PROLOGVS	CAMPBELL · PALMER · HOWARD
SCEPARNIO · SERVOS	IOHANNES · GODFREY · SAXE
PLESIDIPPVS · ADVLESCENS	ROBERTVS · HAROLDVS · KER
DAEMONES · SENEX	ERATVS · EDVINVS · HOWARD
PALAESTRA · MVLIER	MELBOVRNE · CASEWELL · HEINE
AMPELISCA · MVLIER	IOHANNES · TVDOR · SCRIMGER
PTOLEMOCRATIA · SACERDOS	SAMVEL · ARCHIBALD
TRACHALIO · SERVOS	PERCY · THOMAS · MOORE
LABRAX · LENO	GVLIELMVS · WOODHAM · CRAIG
CHARMIDES · SENEX	ALEXANDER · HVNTLY · DVFF
GRIPVS · PISCATOR	MACKAY · EDGAR

LORARI NORMANNVS · MACLEOD · ROBERTVS · PATTERSON

PISCATORES { MAVRITIVS · BVRKE · GVLIELMVS · NESS
CAROLVS · MORRISON · IOHANNES · LAMB
PERCIVAL · DVBOYCE · LEONARDVS · SHAW
IOHANNES · CAPEL · BRVCE · IOHANNES · FARMER
ROBERTVS · PATTERSON · RICARDVS · HENDERSON
IACOBVS · ALBERTVS · MACGREGOR
FREDERICVS · HASZARD

MVTAE · PERSONAE.

ADVLESCENTES · III { NORMANNVS · MACLEOD
IOHANNES · LAMB
ROBERTVS · PATTERSON

TIBICINES · SCAENICI { GORDON · SCOTT · RVTHERFORD
STEWART · FLEMING · RVTHERFORD



SCAENAM · DESIGNAVIT	SAMVEL · HENBEST · CAPPER
MODOS · NOVOS · TIBIIS · PARIB · FECIT	HORATIVS · REYNER
ORNAMENTA · FECIT	M · BEVLLAC

DISSIGNATORES · SVNT · SOCIETATIS · PHILOGOGAE · SODALES



HYMN TO APOLLO.

Written in the third century, B.C., discovered at Delphi in 1893, the text restored by M. H. Weil, and the music transcribed by M. T. Reinach.

I will sing in praise of the glorious son of Zeus!
Who dwellest on the snowy peak of the hills,
Where in sacred oracles to mortal men,
Thou dost proclaim tidings prophetic from the divine tripod seat.
Thou hast driven forth from his place the dragon who watched over the shrine,
And with thy darts hast forced him to hide far in the dark underwood.
Muses came from deeply wooded Helicon,
Beautiful fair-armed daughters, of the loud-singing god dwelling there;
Praising their noble kinsman, even Phoebus, with golden hair,
To the lyre, singing their songs.
He wavers over the twin-headed peak of Parnassus,
And he haunts the rocky places round about famous Delphi.
And Castalia's plentiful springs, full of waters deep and clear,
And presides over Delphi with its oracle true in prophecy.
Come then Attica's noble daughters, come,
Ye who dwell in Tritonis' plain, safe from death-dealing shaft;
Incense and sacrifice offering, Hephaestus kindles sacred fire,
Burning on the altar limbs of bulls,
While the smoke rises and reaches to Olympus;
And from the flute's powerful voice come forth melodious tones, spreading around,
And the lyre's golden notes join in the hymns, aiding in melody,
While, in a throng, Athens sends chosen bands unto the shrine.

A translation of the words sung at the Academy of Music,
Montreal, February 19th and 20th, 1897.

P
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CORRIGENDA.

P. iii, l. 19—For *ferre* read *ferro*.

P. 14, l. 187—For *ornatur* read *ornatu*.

P. 16, l. 210—For *nec dius hic fui* read *neque etiamdum hic fui*.

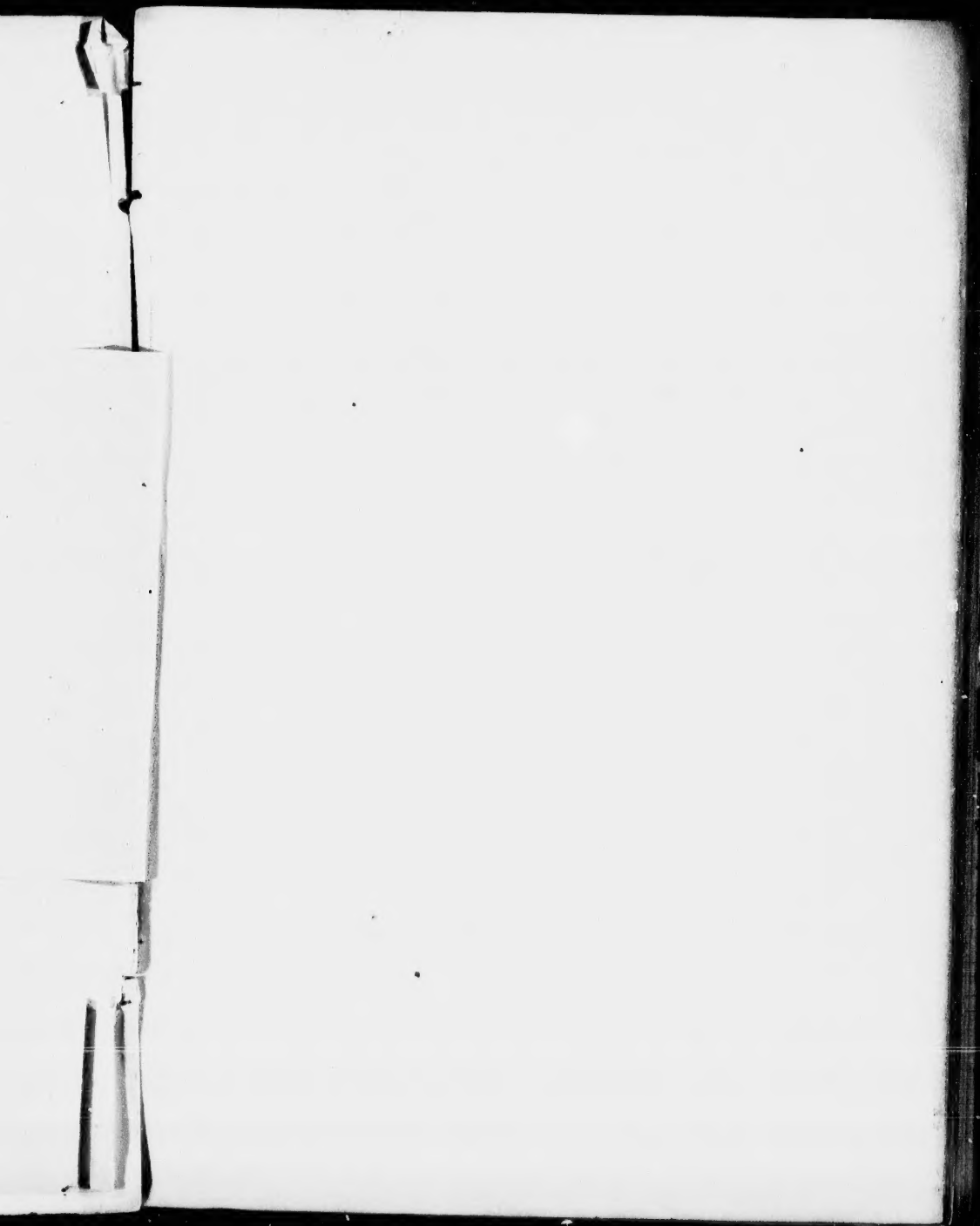
P. 63, l. 14 from foot of page—Read "has been extremely attentive to them."

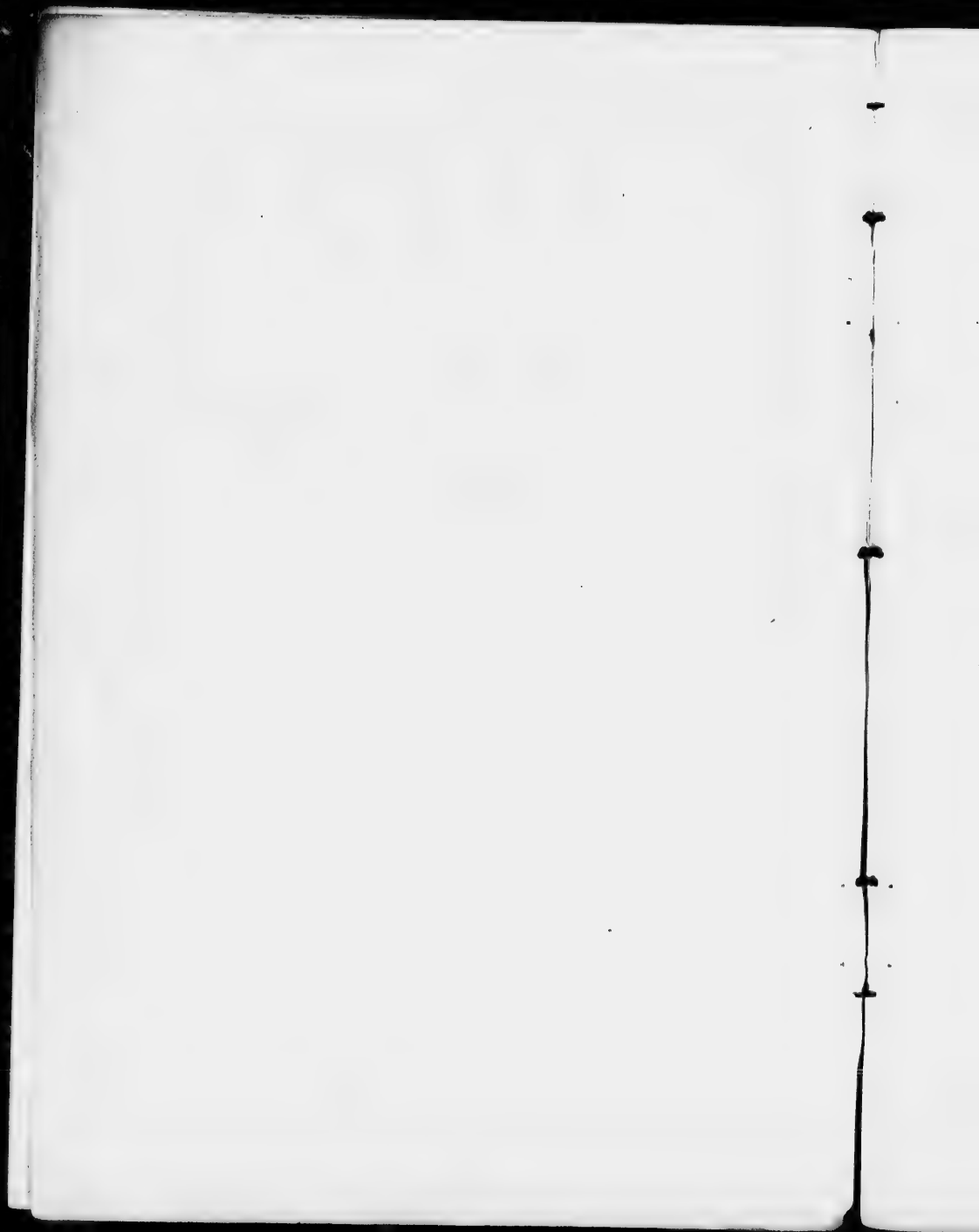
P. 83, l. 4 from foot of page—For *whom* read *who*.

P. 88, l. 1169—*Dele* id.

P. 95, l. 6—Read "And tell him to come at once, so that we may get the supper ready."







PLAVTI • RVDENS.

Quod faustum felixque omnibus vortat precor
 In scena datur hic vobis Macci fabula,
 Quae quadringentis ante lustris edita
 Antiqua in Roma est urbium celeberrima ;
 Iis temporibus quo loco nunc luditur
 Undique patebant vastae solitudines ;
 Nec spectatorum tunc erat qui crederet
 Trans tanta ignota maria post tot secula
 Fore voluptati genti longinquae ac novae,
 Cui tum frequentes plauderent, comoediam.

Nunc etiam accessit copula altera insuper,
 Qua consociatur cum veteribus seculis
 Nostra academia laude florens nova,
 Quod praegredientes ceteris coloniis,
 Quot a Britannis sunt ubique conditae,
 Nuper fundatae tulimus auxilium scholae,
 Despectat urbem qua superbus Parthenon
 Matrem artium olim dictam et eloquentiae.

Rudens ab ipso nomen fabulae inditumst
 Agitur Cyrenis res, Graecorum in oppido ;
 Actorum partes accipietis postibi.

Novam rem ordimur ; alios speramus fore
 Exemplum nostrum qui secuti postea
 Alias spectandas praebeant hic fabulas ;
 Libet recordari hic mihi, hoc ut in oppido
 Alia loquentes lingua stirpe alio viri
 Nobile Thebanam facinus ausam virginem
 Graecorum veterem fabulam celebraverint.

Nunc ut Academia haec precamur floreat
Studiis et ludis, comitate et moribus.
Quid plura? scitis ipsi quanta gloria
Adepti ruper simus id quod omnibus
Qui folle ludunt praemium proponitur.

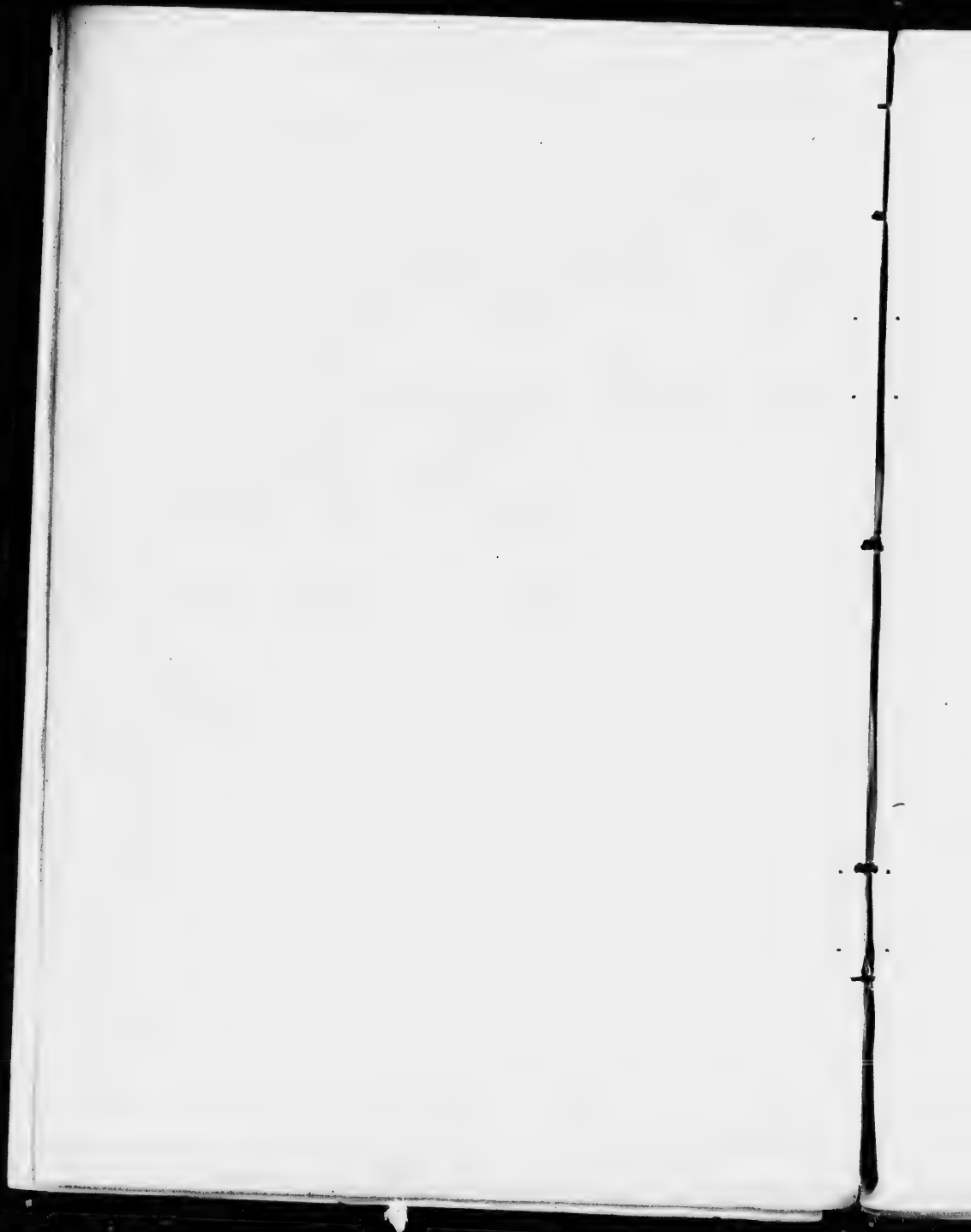
Nec praeteribo ceteris hoc additum
Vitae ornamentis quod nunc hic studentibus
Aedicula praesto est parva, ubi omnibus licet
Aequales inter libere versarier,
Serere sermones mutuos, necnon bene
Cenare parvi, mox speramus parvulo
Huic successurum maius et speciosius
Hospitium, quale in usum mulierum modo
Donavit nostri praesidis benignitas.

Accessit aliis hoc novum miraculum
In medio campo cernere est cotidie
Ingens alumnorum atque alumnarum manus
Ut certet aequor glacie solidum verrere
Tenui munita ferre crepidatos pedes.

Imperium nunc precamur ut Britannicum
Pari augeatur gloria ac concordia
Porro ut regina quae tot illustres avos
Tam longo cursu regni uicit prosperi
Omnes ubique reges atque principes
Ut jam virtute sic superet potentia ;
Cuius legatus clarus in republica
Praesens nobiscum celebrat hunc festum diem.

Valete : Arcturum huc advenientem conspicio.

S. B. S.



INCIPIT • PLAVTI • RVDENS •
ACTA • LAETISSIMO • BRITANNICI • IMPERII • ANNO •
QVO • DVODECIMVM • CLAVSIT • VICTORIA • REGINA •
LVSTRVM •
EGIT • GREX • MACGILLIENSIS •
IN • CANADA • AD • MONTEM • REGIVM •
RECTORE • VNIVERSITATIS • GVLIELMO • PETERSON •
CVRATORIBVS • LVDORVM • PROFESSORIBVS • ACADEMICIS •

ARGVMENTVM.

Reti piscator de mari extraxit vidulum,
Vbi erant erilis filiae crepundia,
Dominum ad lenonem quae subrepta venerat
Ea suipte imprudens in cluentelam patris
Naufragio eiecta devenit : cognoscitur
Suoque amico Plesidippo iungitur.

THE ARGUMENT.

Recovered from the ocean lies a wallet which contains,
Unknown to him who drew it out, intent upon his gains,
Designs in cunning workmanship, a little axe and sword,
Erstwhile the trinkets of a maid, the daughter of his lord ;
Nigh carried off in slavery, but shipwrecked here instead,
She, by the trinkets recognized, is to her lover wed.

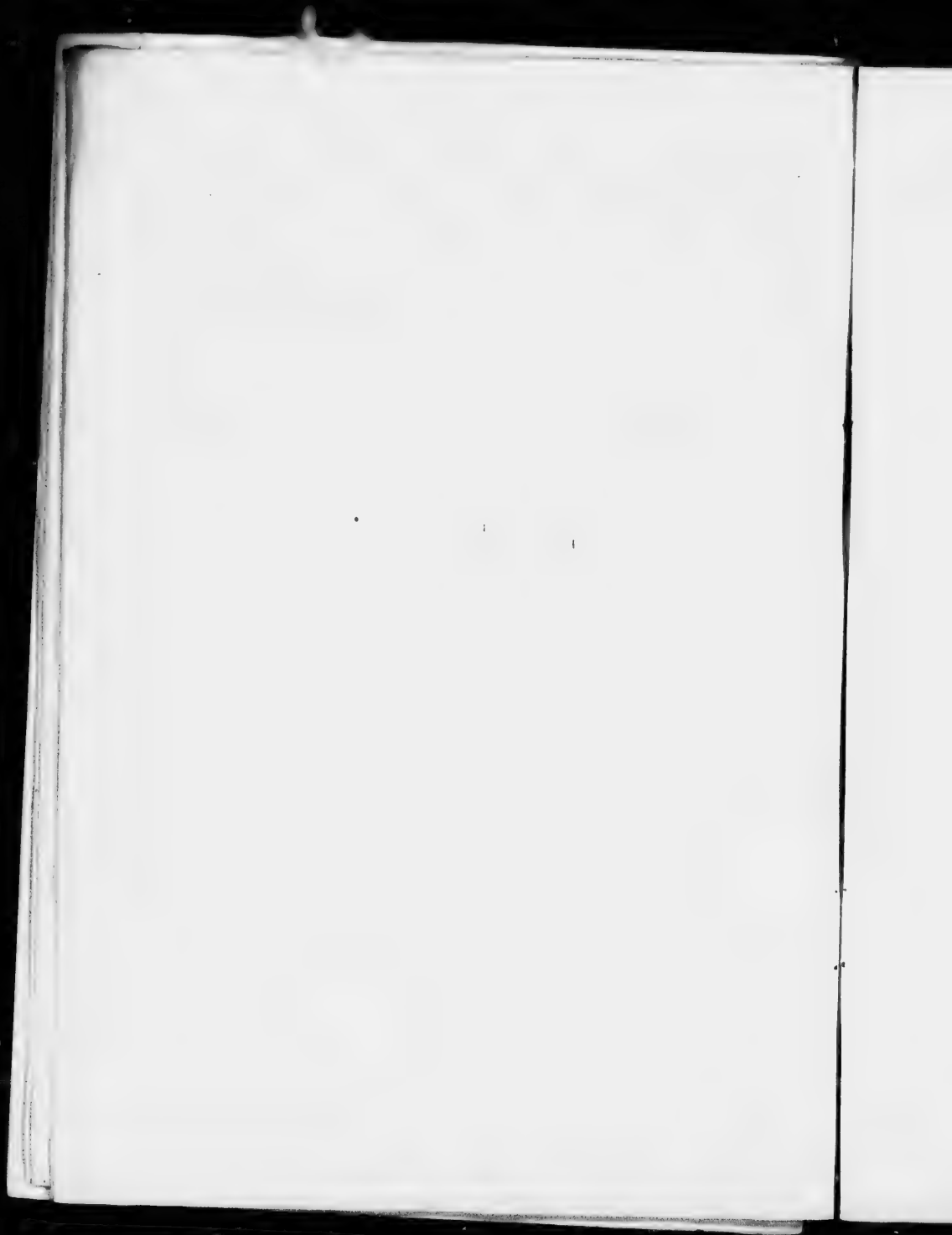
W. M.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

ARCTVRVS	PROLOGVS
DAEMONES	SENEX
PALAESTRA	MVLIER
AMPELISCA	MVLIER
LABRAX	LENO
CHARMIDES	SENEX
PLESIDIPPVS	ADVLESCENS
TRACHALIO	SERVOS
SCEPARNIO	SERVOS
GRIPVS	PISCATOR
PTOLEMOCRATIA	SACERDOS
PISCATORES	
LORARII	
ADVLESCENTES	

THE CHARACTERS.

ARCTURUS	. . . . .	<i>A Star God.</i>
DAEMONES	. . . . .	<i>An aged Athenian, living at Cyrene.</i>
PALAESTRA	. . . . .	<i>A slave discovered to be his daughter.</i>
AMPELISCA	. . . . .	<i>A slave, her companion.</i>
LABRAX	. . . . .	<i>A slave dealer, master of Palaestra and Ampeliscæ.</i>
CHARMIDES	. . . . .	<i>His companion in rascality.</i>
PLESIDIPPUS	. . . . .	<i>A gilded youth.</i>
TRACHALIO	. . . . .	<i>His servant.</i>
SCEPARNIO	. . . . .	<i>Slave of Daemones.</i>
GRIPUS	. . . . .	<i>An aged fisherman, slave of Daemones.</i>
PTOLEMOCRATIA	. . . . .	<i>Priestess of Venus.</i>
FISHERMEN.		
WHIPPING SLAVES.		
FRIENDS OF PLESIDIPPUS.		



THE RUDENS OF PLAUTUS.

SCENE: *The coast near Cyrene, in Africa. In the background, the distant town and harbour of Cyrene, a temple of Venus, and, near it, the cottage of DAEMONES.*

PROLOGVS.

ARCTVRVS.

Qui gentis omnis mariaque et terras mouet,
Eius sum ciuis ciuitate caelitum,
Ita, ut uidetis, splendens stella candida,
Signum quod semper tempore exoritur suo. 5
Hic atque in caelo nomen Arcturost mihi.
Noctu sum in caelo clarus atque inter deos,
Inter mortalis ambulans interdus.
Et alia signa de caelo ad terram accidunt :
Quist imperator diuom atque hominum Iuppiter,
Is nos per gentis aliud alia disparat, 10
Hominum qui facta, mores, pietatem et fidem
Noscamus, ut quemque adiuuet opulentia.
Qui falsas litis falsis testimoniis
Petunt quique in iure abiurant pecuniam,
Eorum referimus nomina exscripta ad Iouem. 15
Cotidie ille scit quis hic quaerat malum.
Qui hic litem apisci postulant peiurio
Mali, res falsas qui impetrant apud iudicem,
Iterum ille eam rem iudicatam iudicat :
Maiore multa multat quam litem auferunt. 20
Bonos in aliis tabulis exscriptos habet.
Atque hoc scelesti si in animum inducunt suom,
Iouem se placare posse donis, hostiis,
Et operam et sumptum perdunt. id eo fit, quia
Nihil ei acceptumst a periuris supplici. 25

THE PROLOGUE.

ARCTURUS.

Of the company of the celestials am I, a comrade of Jove, who sways all peoples and seas and lands. I am, as you see, a constellation, lustrous with a bright star, which ever rises in its season. Arcturus is the name I bear on earth, and in heaven. By night I shine conspicuous in the sky among the gods; my path lies among mortals in the day. Other constellations, too, descend from heaven to earth. Jupiter the lord of gods and men—he it is who stations us throughout the world, one here, one there, to take knowledge of the conduct, character, righteousness and fealty of mortal men, that every one may meet with his deserts. When men institute fraudulent actions on false witness, and when before the magistrate they deny on oath a deposit, their names we enter and report to Jove. Day by day he knows who is plotting mischief here below. When men seek to win a suit by perjury—rascals that they are!—or when by fraud they gain their cases before a judge, the judgment given he judges once again: far heavier the fine he orders than what they reap as litigants. The good he keeps entered on another list. And if the rogues take it into their heads that they can propitiate Jupiter with offerings and sacrifice, they lose their pains and their money too. The reason is this: no sacrifice is acceptable to Jove from a perjurer.

Facilius siqui pius est a dis supplicans
Quam qui scelestust inueniet ueniam sibi.
Idcirco moneo uos ego hoc, qui estis boni
Quique aetatem agitis cum pietate et cum fide :
Retinete porro, post factum ut laetemini. 30
Nunc, huc qua causa ueni, argumentum eloquar.
Primumdum huic esse nomen urbi Diphilus
Cyrenas uoluit. illic habitat Daemones
In agro atque uilla proxuma propter mare,
Senex qui huc Athenis exul uenit, hau malus. 35
Neque is adeo propter malitiam patria caret :
Sed dum alios seruat, se inpediuit interim,
Rem bene paratam comitate perdidit.
Huic filiola una uirgo periit paruola :
Eam de praedone uir mercatur pessumus : 40
Is eam huc Cyrenas leno aduexit uirginem.
Adulescens quidam ciuis huius Atticus
Eam uidit ire e ludo fidicinio domum.
Amare occepit : ad lenonem deuenit,
Minis triginta sibi puellam destinat 45
Datque arrabonem et iureiurando adligat.
Is leno, ut se aequomst, flocci non fecit fidem
Neque quod iuratus adulescenti dixerat.
Ei aderat hospes par sui, Siculus senex,
Scelestus Agrigentinus, urbis proditor : 50
Infit lenoni suadere, ut secum simul
Eat in Siciliam : ibi esse homines uoluptarios
Dicit : ibi eum potesse fieri diuitem. 55
Persuadet. nauis clanculum conducitur.
Quidquid erat noctu in nauem conportat domo
Leno : adulescenti, qui puellam ab eo emerat,
Ait sese Veneri uelle uotum soluere 60
(Id hic est Veneris fanum) atque adeo ad prandium
Vocauit adulescentem huc. ipse hinc ilico
Conscendit in nauem, auehit mulierculas.

Sooner will the prayer of the righteous prevail with the gods than the prayer of a villain. And so this is my advice to you who are good and live in all righteousness and fealty: Be steadfast in your course that you may have joy in the end. Now—and for this reason have I come—I will set forth our argument

First of all, then, Cyrene was the name given by Diphilus to this city. Yonder dwells Daemones, in the country, in a cottage hard by the sea—an old man who came into exile here from Athens: not a bad man, either. Bad! 'Twas no vice of his that drove him from his home; in attempting to save others, he became involved himself; 'twas kindness that reft him of the estate he had honourably acquired. His only daughter he lost when she was quite a little girl. An arrant scoundrel of a dealer bought the maid from the man who had kidnapped her and carried her here to Cyrene. A young Athenian, a fellow-citizen of hers, saw her going home from her music-school—'twas love at first sight! He goes to the dealer, buys the girl for thirty minæ, makes a payment on account, and gets the seller to swear to his bargain. The dealer, just as you would expect, did not care a straw for his promise or for what he had said to the young man on oath. He had a friend of the same stamp as himself, an old Sicilian,—a villain who would sell his country. This man begins to recommend the dealer to go with him to Sicily, telling him that gay fellows live there, and that he can make a heap of money. His advice is taken, and they secretly hire a vessel. All his belongings the dealer ships from his house at dead of night, telling the young man who had bought the girl from him that he was wishful to perform a vow to Venus (this is her temple here), and, besides, he has asked our young friend here to lunch. Immediately the dealer goes on board ship and carries off the maidens. The young man hears from others

Adulescenti alii narrant ut res gesta sit :
Lenonem abiisse. ad portum adulescens aduenit,
Illorum nauis longe in altum abscesserat. 66
Ego quoniam uideo uirginem asportarier,
Tetuli ei auxilium et lenoni exitium simul :
Increpui hibernum et fluctus moui maritimos.
Nam Arcturus signum sum omnium unum acer-
rumum : 70
Vehemens sum exoriens, quom occido uehementior.
Nunc ambo leno atque hospes, in saxo, simul
Sedent eiekti : nauis confractast eis.
Illa autem uirgo atque altera itidem ancillula
De naui timidæ desuluerunt in scapham. 75
Nunc eas ab saxo fluctus ad terram ferunt,
Ad uillam illius, exul ubi habitat senex,
Quoius deturbauit uentus tectum et tegulas.
Et seruos illic est eius qui egreditur foras.
Adulescens huc iam adueniet, quem uidebitis, 80
Qui illam mercatust de lenone uirginem.
Valete, ut hostes uostri diffidant sibi.

how things have gone,—the dealer was off! He comes to the harbour, and behold! the ship had got far out to sea. As for me, when I saw the girl being carried off, I brought aid to her, and at the same time destruction to the dealer. I blew a wintry blast and tossed up the billows of the main. Arcturus, the most turbulent of all the constellations, am I—tempestuous at my rising, and at my setting more tempestuous still. Now, both the dealer and his friend are sitting side by side upon a rock on which they have been thrown. Their ship has been dashed to pieces. The girl, however, and with her a young friend, have jumped from the ship into a boat. And now the waves are bearing them shorewards from the rock to the old man's cottage, where he is living in exile; its tiled roof has been whisked off by the gale. See, there is his slave, coming out of doors. The young man will soon be here—you will see him—the one who bought the girl from the dealer. So Good-bye, and God confound your foes!

ACTVS I.

SCEPARNIO.

- SC. Pro di immortales, tempestatem quouismodi I 1
 Neptunus nobis nocte hac misit proxuma.
 Detexit uentus uillam—quid uerbis opust? 85
 Non uentus fuit, uerum Alcumena Euripidi:
 Ita omnis de tecto deturbauit tegulas:
 Inlustrioris fecit festrasque indidit.

PLESIDIPPVS (CVM TRIUVS ADVLESCENTIBVS).
 SCEPARNIO. DAEMONES.

- PL. Et uos a uostris abduxi negotiis I 2
 Neque id processit, qua uos duxi gratia: 90
 Neque quivi ad portum lenonem prehendere.
 Sed mea desidia spem deserere nolui:
 Eo uos, amici, detinui diutius.
 Nunc huc ad Veneris fanum uenio uisere,
 Vbi rem diuinam se facturum dixerat. 95
- SC. Si sapiam, hoc quod me mactat concinnem lutum.
- PL. Prope me hic nescio quis loquitur. DAE. Heus,
 Sceparnio.
- SC. Qui nominat me? DAE. Qui pro te argentum
 dedit.
- SC. Quasi me tuom esse seruom dicas, Daemones.
- DAE. Luto usust multo, multam terram confode.
 Villam integundam intellego totam mihi: 101
 Nam nunc perlucet ea quam cribrum crebrius.
- PL. Pater, salueto amboque adeo. DAE. Et tu saluos
 sis.

ACT I.

SCENE I.

(Enter SCEPARNIO (R.) from the cottage of DAEMONES, spade in hand.)

SC. Heavens above us! what a storm Neptune let loose upon us last night! The wind took the roof off the house—wind did I call it? no wind, but a regular tragedy tempest of Euripides; in such wise has it whisked off every single tile. It has made the house better lighted than ever, with the windows it has put in.

SCENE II.

(Enter PLESIDIPPUS (L.), from harbour, accompanied by three friends, wearing chlamydes and bearing swords.)

PL. Well, I have taken you from your business, but I have not succeeded in the purpose for which I have brought you here: I could not catch the dealer at the harbour. Still, I determined not to give way to any laziness or despair on my own part, and so I have kept you waiting, good friends, longer than I meant. Now, I have come here to visit Venus's temple, where the fellow intended to offer sacrifice, as he told me.

SC. I shall be a fool if I don't get this clay ready—it'll be the very death of me, else.

PL. Somebody or other is talking close to me here. (Enter DAE. from cottage, R.)

DAE. Holloa! Sceparnio!

SC. Who is calling me?

DAE. The man who bought you.

SC. I suppose you mean to say I'm your slave.

DAE. We want plenty of clay, so dig deep. The whole cottage must be roofed in, I see; for, as it stands, it is more full of holes than a sieve.

PL. Good-day, father—and so to both.

DAE. Good-day to you.

- SC. Sed utrum tu masne an femina's, qui illum patrem
Voces? PL. Vir sum equidem. SC. Quaere,
uir, porro patrem : 105
- DAE. Filiolam ego unam quam habui, eam unam perdidit.
Virile sexus numquam ullum habui. PL. At di
dabunt.
- SC. Tibi quidem hercle, quisquis es, magnum malum,
Qui oratione hic occupatos occupes.
- PL. Isticine uos habitatis? SC. Quid tu id quaeritas? 110
Quo mox furatum uenias uestigas loca?
- PL. Peculiosum esse addecet seruom et probum,
Quem ero praesente praetereat oratio,
Aut qui inclementer dicat homini libero.
- SC. Et inpudicum et inpudentem hominem addecet, 115
Molestum ultro aduenire ad alienam domum,
Quoi debeatur nil. DAE. Tace, Sceparnio.
Quid opust, adulescens? PL. Istic infortunium,
Qui praefestinet ubi erus adsit praeloqui.
Sed nisi molestumst, paucis percontarier 120
Volo ego ex te. DAE. Dabitur opera, atque in
negotio.
- SC. Quin tu in paludem is exicasque harundinem,
Qui pertegamus uillam, dum sudumst. DAE. Tace.
Tu siquid opus est dice. PL. Dic quod te rogo :
Ecquem tu hic hominem crispum, incanum uideris,
Malum, periurum, palpatorem. DAE. Plurumos : 126
Nam ego propter eius modi uiros uiuo miser.
- PL. Hic dico, in fanum Veneris qui mulierculas
Duas secum adduxit quicum adornaret sibi
Vt rem diuinam faciat, aut hodie aut heri. 130
- DAE. Non hercle, adulescens, iam hos dies complusculos
Quemquam istic uidi sacrificare : neque potest
Clam me esse, siqui sacrificat. semper petunt
Aquam hinc aut ignem aut uascula aut cultrum
aut ueru

SC. But are you man or woman—you who call him father?

PL. A man, on my word.

SC. Well, my dear man, you must find a father elsewhere.

DAE. One little daughter I had, but her I lost. Son I never had.

PL. Well, but the Gods will give you one.

SC. Yes, and they'll give you, whoever you are, a peck of trouble for distracting with your chatter those who are distracted enough as it is. PL. Is it here that you live?

SC. Why that question? Are you prying about the premises with intent to thieve presently?

PL. Surely he must be a well-to-do and upright slave, who lets his tongue run away with him when his master is by, or who speaks rudely to a gentleman.

SC. And surely you have a deal of shamelessness and effrontery to come unbidden, like the nuisance that you are, to a strange house. We don't owe you anything!

DAE. Hold your tongue, Sceparnio! What do you want, young man?

PL. Perdition to catch that slave of yours who is in such a desperate hurry to get in the first word when his master is here. But, if you don't mind, I should like to ask you one or two questions. DAE. At your service, busy as I am.

SC. No, no! Off you go to the marsh, and cut reeds to thatch the cottage, while the weather holds.

DAE. (*to* SC.) Silence! (*to* PL.) Do you say what you wish.

PL. Tell me this: Have you seen any curly-headed, hoary-haired rascal here, a perjured, wheedling villain?

DAE. Plenty of them! Why, it is just by such scamps that my life has been ruined.

PL. I mean here—one who has brought two young women to Venus's temple and was preparing to offer sacrifice, to-day or yesterday.

DAE. No, indeed, young man! For some time past I haven't seen anybody sacrificing here, and no one can offer sacrifice unknown to me. They are always coming here for water, or fire, or utensils, or knives, or spits or a stew-pot or

Aut aulam extarem aut aliquid—quid uerbis opust?

Veneri parauī uasa et puteum, non mihi.

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Nunc interuallum iam hos dies multos fuit.

PL. Vt uerba praehibes, me periisse praedicās.

DAE. Mea quidem hercle causa saluos sis licet.

Fortasse tu huc uocatus es ad prandium :

Ille qui uocauit, nullus uenit? PL. Ad modum.

SC. Nullumst periculum te hinc ire inpransum domum.

PL. Deludificauit me ille homo indignis modis.

DAE. Pro di immortales, quid illuc est, Sceparnio,
Hominum secundum litus? Vt mea opiniost,

Confracta nauis in marist illis. SC. Itast.

At hercle nobis uilla in terra et tegulae.

DAE. Hui.

155

Homunculi quanti estis: eiecti ut natant.

PL. Vbi sunt homines, opsecro? DAE. Hac ad dexteram:

Viden secundum litus? PL. Video: sequimini.

Vtinam is sit quem ego quaero, uir sacerrumus.

Valete. SC. Si non moneas, nosmet meminimus.

Sed o Palaemon, sancte Neptuni comes,

160

Quod facinus uideo? DAE. Quid uides? SC. Mulierculas

Video sedentis in scapha solas duas.

Vt adflctantur miserae. euge, euge, perbene,

Ab saxo auortit fluctus ad litus scapham.

165

Neque gubernator umquam potuit rectius.

Non uidisse undas me maiores censeo.

Saluae sunt, si illos fluctus deuiterint.

Nunc nunc periculumst: unda eiecit alteram.

At in uadost: iam facile enabit. eugepae:

Surrexit: horsum se capessit, salua res:

175

Desuluit haec autem altera ad terram e scapha.

Vt prae timore in genua in undas concidit.

Saluast: euasit ex aqua: iam in litorest.

Sed dextrouorsum auorsa it in malam crucem.

Hem,

Errabit illaec hodie. DAE. Quid id refert tua?

something or other ; in short, 'twas for Venus, not for myself, that I got my household gear together, and my well. But now for many a day no one has come.

PL. In the words you utter you tell me I am undone.

DAE. So far as I am concerned, all may be well with you. Possibly you were invited here to lunch, and your host has not turned up? PL. Just so.

SC. No fear of your going home without a meal!

PL. This fellow has been jeering at me most shamelessly.

DAE. Good gracious! what men are those, Seeparnio, along the shore. I take it, they have been wrecked at sea.

SC. Right you are—and our cottage has been wrecked on shore, tiles and all.

DAE. Whew! Poor souls, what a plight! They are overboard, and how they swim! PL. Dear, dear, where are they?

DAE. Here to the right: don't you see them along the shore?

PL. Why, so I do! (*to friends.*) Follow me! If only it were the man I seek, that accursed wretch! Take care of yourselves! (*Exeunt PLESIDIPPUS and friends to shore, L.*) SC. We won't forget that, even without a hint from you. But, O Palaemon, Neptune's holy comrade, what is this I see? DAE. What do you see?

SC. I see two girls sitting in a skiff by themselves. How they are tossed about, poor things! Good, good, excellent! A wave has sheered the skiff from the rock to the shore. No helmsman could possibly have made a better course of it. I don't believe I ever saw a bigger sea. They are all right, if only they get clear of yonder surf. Now is the crisis—now! One of them is washed out by the wave. But she is in shallow water; now she'll easily get ashore. Bravo! she is on her feet and is coming our way. All's well! But the other has leapt ashore from the skiff. See how the poor frightened thing has fallen on her knees in the water! She's all right; she has made her way out and now she's ashore. Ah, she has turned to the right and is going to perdition. Dear me! she'll have a pretty ramble this day. DAE. What's that to you?

- SC. Si ad saxum, quo capessit, ea deorsum cadit,
Errationis fecerit compendium. 180
- DAE. Si tu de illarum cenaturus uesperis,
Illis curandum censeo, Sceparnio :
Si apud me essurus, mihi dari operam mauolo.
- SC. Bonum aequomque oras. DAE. Sequere me hac
ergo. SC. Sequor.

PALAESTRA.

- Nimio hominum fortunae minus miserae memo- I 3
rantur 185
- Quam quantum experiundo is datur acerbisatum.
Nescioquid hoc deo complacitumst me hoc ornatur
ornatam in incertas
- Regiones timidam eiectionem? 187^b
- Hancine ego ad rem natam miseram memorabo?
hancine ego partem
- Capio ob pietatem praecipuam?
- Nam hoc mihi nil laboris laborem hunc potiri, 190
- Sic si erga parentem aut deos me inopiaui :
- Sed id si parate curavi ut cauere,
- Tum mi hoc indecore inmodeste datis di.
- Nam quid sibi habebunt inpii insigne posthac,
- Si ad hunc modumst innoxii honor apud uos? 195
- Nam me si fecisse aut parentis scelesti
- Sciam, minus me miserer.
- Sed erile scelus me sollicitat, eius mea impietas
male habet :
- Is nauem atque omnia perdidit in mari : em haec
eius sunt bonum reliquiae.
- Etiam quae simul 200
- Vecta mecum in scaphast, Ampelisca, excidit:
- Ego nunc sola sum. 201^b

SC. If she falls down the rock to which she is clinging, she'll cut short her ramble.

DAE. If it is at the expense of those girls that you are going to dine to-night, Sceparnio, you would do well, I think, to look after them ; but if you mean to eat in my house, then I would have you attend to me.

SC. That's only fair and square.

DAE. Well, follow me this way.

SC. All right ! (*Exeunt DAE. and SC. into cottage, R.*)

SCENE III.

(*Enter PALAESTRA from shore, L.*)

PA. Man's lot is far less wretched in the telling than the measure of sorrow that falls to his share in real life. Can some deity or other have designed that I, in such a guise as this, should be cast upon this unknown shore, a timid girl ? Was it for this—woe is me !—that I was born ? Is this the reward I am to get for my great goodness ? It would not be hard for me to bear this hardship, if towards parents or towards heaven I had ever acted undutifully. But I have been particularly careful to avoid such conduct : surely, then, all undeservedly and ungently are ye Gods dealing with me. What guerdon will the wicked have hereafter, if innocence is to be rewarded in this way by you ? If I were conscious of any sin of mine or of my parents, I should be less sorry for myself. But it is my master's sin that pursues me ; his wickedness it is that afflicts me. His ship and all he had he has lost in the sea ; this is the sorry remnant of his estate. Ampelisca, too, my companion in the boat, has been washed

Quae mihi si foret salua saltem labor
 Lenior esset hic mi eius opera.
 Nunc quam spem aut opem aut consili quid
 capessam

Ita hic solis solis locis conpotita? 205

Hic saxa sunt hic mare sonat neque quisquam mi
 obuiam homo uenit.

Hoc quod induta sum summae opes oppido,
 Nec cibo nec loco tecta quo sim scio:

Quae mihist spes qua me uiuere uelim?
 Nec loci gnara sum nec dius hic fui: 210

Aliquem saltem uelim qui mihi ex his locis
 Aut uiam aut semitam monstret: ita nunc
 Hac an illac eam incerta sum consili,
 Nec prope usquam hic quidem cultum agrum
 conspikor,

Algor, error, pauor, me omnia tenent. 215

Haec, parentes mei, me hauscitis miseri nunc
 miseram esse ita uti sum.

Libera ego prognata fui maxume, nequiquam fui.
 Nunc qui minus seruo quam si forem serua nata?
 Neque quicquam umquam ibus profuit qui me sibi
 eduxerunt.

AMPELISCA. PALAESTRA.

AM. Quid mihi meliust, quid magis in remst, quam I 4
 corpore uitam ut secludam? 220

Ita male uiuo atque ita mihi multae in pectore
 sunt curae exanimales:

Ita res se habent: uitae hau parco: peridi spem
 qua me oblectabam.

Omnia iam circumcursaui atque omnibus latebris
 perreptaui

away. I am now alone. Were she but saved, she would help to lighten my distress. But, as it is, what hope or aid or plan can I find, left thus mistress of this lone, lone spot? On this side, rocks; on that, the sounding sea—and not a soul is nigh! These clothes I wear are positively all I have. I have no idea where I can get food or lodging. What hope have I that should make life worth living? I don't know this place. I never saw it before. Would that somebody would only show a road or path away from here! At present, I have no notion which way to turn, nor is there anywhere at hand a sign of cultivation to be seen. Cold, distraction, fright—there is nothing I'm not a prey to. Of all this, dear parents, you are unaware; alas! you do not know that I am at this moment in such a plight as this. I was of the gentlest of gentle birth, but all in vain. Now how am I less a slave than if I had been slave-born? No comfort has all this ever been to those who brought me up.

SCENE IV.

(Enter AMPELISCA from shore, L.)

AM. Could I do anything better or anything more fitting, than make away with myself? So wretched is my life, and so many deadly distresses crowd my heart. It has come to this,—I reck not aught of life: gone is the hope with which I solaced myself. All around I have wandered, searching every

Quaerere conseruam: uoce, oculis, auribus ut
uestigarem.

Neque eam usquam inuenio neque quo eam neque
qua quaeram consultumst,

225

Neque quem rogitem responsorem quemquam
interea conuenio.

Neque magis solae terrae solae sunt quam haec
loca atque haec regiones.

Neque si uiuit eam uiua umquam quin inueniam
desistam.

PA. Quoianam mihi uox prope hic sonat?

AM. Pertimui: quis hic loquitur tam prope?

230

PA. Spes bona, obsecro, subuenta mihi.

AM. Mulier est, muliebris uox mi ad auris uenit.
Eximesne me ex hoc miseram metu?

PA. Certo uox muliebris auris tetigit meas:

Num Ampelisca obsecrost? AM. Ten, Palaestra,
audio?

235

PA. Quin uoco, ut me audiat, nomine illam suo?

Ampelisca! AM. Hem, quis est? PA. Ego,
Palaestra: em tibi.

AM. Dic ubi's? PA. Pol ego nunc in malis plurumis.

AM. Socia sum nec minor pars meast quam tua.

Sed uidere expeto te. PA. Mihi's aemula.

240

AM. Consequamur gradu uocem: ubi's? PA. Ecce me:

Accede ad me atque adi contra. AM. Fit sedulo.

PA. Cedo manum. AM. Accipe.

PA. Dic: uiuisne, obsecro?

AM. Tu facis me quidem uiuere ut nunc uelim,

Quom mihi te licet tangere: ut uix mihi

245

Credo ego hoc, te tenere. obsecro, amplectere,

Spes mea: ut me omnium iam laborum leuas.

PA. Occupas praeloqui quae mea oratiost.

Nunc abire hinc decet nos. AM. Quo amabo
ibimus?

225 nook, to find my partner in captivity, calling for her, looking for her, listening for her, so as to track her out. Nowhere can I find her, nor can I make up my mind where to go or where to continue my search. Nor can I find anybody anywhere to answer my questions. Surely no desert is more deserted than is this spot and the country round. If she is alive, as long as I live, I will never give up my search.

PA. Whose voice is this that I hear hard by? I am all of a tremble.

AM. Who is speaking so near?

230 PA. Kind Hope, come to my aid, I pray thee!

AM. It is a woman; a woman's voice falls on my ear. Won't you help a poor girl out of this fright?

PA. Surely it is a woman's voice that has reached my ear. Say, is it Ampelisca?

AM. Is it you I hear, Palaestra?

235 PA. Let me shout her name aloud that she may hear? Ampelisca!

AM. Ho! who is that? PA. See here, 'tis I, Palaestra.

AM. Do tell me where you are.

PA. Well, I am in a sea of trouble.

AM. I'm in the same case, nor is my share less than yours. But I am dying to see you.

240 AM. Let us move forward to where the voice comes from. Where are you?

PA. Here I am! Do you come and meet me.

AM. That's just what I'm doing. PA. Reach me your hand.

AM. There it is. PA. Do tell me! are you alive?

245 AM. You make me in love with life again, now that I can touch you. I can hardly believe that I have got you. Do take me in your arms, I pray you, dearest. How in a moment you lighten all my load!

PA. You have taken out of my mouth the very words I was going to speak. Now we must away.

AM. Where, dearest, shall we go?

PA. Litus hoc persequamur. AM. Sequor quo lubet. 250

PA. Sicine hic cum uuida ueste grassabimur?

AM. Hoc quod est id necessariumst perpeti.
Sed quid hoc obsecrost?

PA. Quid? AM. Viden, amabo, fanum? PA. Vbist?
AM. Ad dexteram: uidesne hoc?

PA. Video decorum dis locum uiderier.

AM. Haud longe abesse oportet homines hinc, ita hic
lepidust locus. 255

PA. Hunc quisquis est deus ueneror ut nos ex hac
aerumna eximat

Aut miseras inopes aerumnosas ut aliquo auxilio
adiuuet.

PTOLEMOCRATIA. PALAESTRA. AMPELISCA.

PT. Qui sunt qui a patrona preces mea expetessunt? I 5
Nam uox me precantum huc foras excitauit.

Bonam atque obsequentem deam atque haud
grauatam 260

Patronam exsequontur benignamque multum.

PA. Iubemus te saluere, mater. PT. Saluete,
Puellae: sed unde uos ire cum uuida

Veste, dicam obsecro,

Tam maestiter uestitas? 265

PA. Ilico hinc imus haud longule ex hoc loco
Verum longe hinc abest, unde aduectae huc sumus.

PT. Nempe equo ligneo per uias caerulas
Estis uectae? PA. Admodum. PT. Ergo
aequius uos erat

Ca. Idatas uenire hostiatasque: ad hoc
Fanum ad istunc modum non ueniri solet. 270

PA. Quaene eiectae e mari simus ambae, obsecro,
Vnde nos hostias voluisti huc adigere?
Nunc tibi amplectimur genua egentes opum,

PA. Let us follow the line of the shore.

AM. I will come wherever you like.

PA. Shall we go as we are, with our clothes all wet ?

AM. What can't be cured must be endured. But, dear me, what have we here ?

PA. Where ?

AM. Do you see this temple, my dear ?

PA. Where ?

AM. On the right.

PA. The place I see is fit for the gods themselves.

AM. There must be somebody not far from here—the spot is so charming.

PA. I pray the God, whoever he may be, to deliver us from this distress ; to lend us a helping hand in our misery, helplessness and woe.

SCENE V.

(Enter PTOLEMOCRATIA from the temple, c.)

PT. Who be these that have a boon to ask of my patroness ? Suppliant voices have brought me out. The goddess they seek is kind and compliant, an ungrudging mistress, and gracious indeed.

PA. Good-morrow to you, mother.

PT. Good-morrow, maidens. But whence come you, pray, with dripping garments, in such sorry guise ?

PA. We are just come from quite close by, but far away off from here is the place we sailed from.

PT. You mean that on shipboard you made your way across the tracks of the blue sea ?

PA. Just so.

SC. Then were it more fitting for you to come in garments white and bringing victims. This temple is not wont to be visited after such a fashion.

PA. When two women have been shipwrecked, where, pray, would you have them get the victims from ? Now we clasp

Quae in locis nesciis nescia spe sumus, 275
Vt tuo recipias tecto seruesque nos

Miseriarumque te ambarum uti misereat :

Quibus nec locust ullus nec spes paratast,

Neque hoc amplius quod uides nobis quicquamst.

Pt. Manus mihi date exsurgite a genibus ambae : 280

Misericordior nulla mest feminarum,

Sed haec pauperes res sunt inopesque, puellae :

Egomèt uix hic uitam colo : Veneri cibo meo
seruio.

A.M. Veneris fanum, obsecro, hoc est ? 284

Pt. Fateor : ego huius fani

Famula et sacerdos clueo. 285^b

Verum quicquid est comiter fiet a me,

Necopia quo ualebit.

Ite hac mecum. PA. Amice benigneque honorem,

Mater, nostrum habes. Pt. Oportet.

thy knees in utter want, for we know not where we are nor what to look for, begging thee to receive us in thy temple and keep us safe, and to show pity for both of us in our distress. For we have neither home nor hope left, nor have we aught beyond what you see.

PT. Give me your hands. Rise, both of you, from your knees. No one among women is more compassionate than I. But scant means are mine, my girls, and poor. Scarce can I keep body and soul together. I serve Venus at my own charges.

AM. So this is Venus's temple, is it?

PT. Yes, and I am known as the attendant and priestess of the temple. But you shall have every courtesy from me, so far as my poor means allow. Come this way with me.

PA. In kindly generous wise dost thou receive us, mother.

PT. 'Tis meet. (*Exeunt PT., PAL. and AMP. into temple.*)

ACTVS II.

PISCATORES.

Omnibus modis qui pauperes sunt homines miseri uiuont, II 1
 Praesertim quibus nec quaestus est nec didicere artem 290
 nullam.

Necessitate quicquid est domi id sat est habendum.
 Nos iam de ornatu propemodum ut locupletes simus scitis.
 Hisce hami atque haec harundines sunt nobis quaestu et
 cultu,

Cotidie ex urbe ad mare huc prodimus pabulatum. 295
 Pro exercitu gymnastico et palaestrico hoc habemus :
 Echinos, lopadas, ostreas, balanos agitamus, conchas,
 Marinam urticam, musculos, placusias striatas.
 Postid piscatum hamatilem et saxatilem adgredimur,
 Cibus captamus e mari. si euentus non euenit 300
 Neque quicquam captumst piscitum, salsi lautique pure
 Domum redimus clanculum, dormimus incenati.
 Atque ut nunc ualide fluctuat mare, nulla nobis spes est :
 Nisi quid concharum capsimus, cenati sumus profecto.
 Nunc Venerem hanc ueneremur bonam, ut nos lepide
 adiuerit hodie. 305

TRACHALIO. PISCATORES.

TR. Animum aduorsauī sedulo, ne erum usquam prae- II 2
 terirem :

Nam quomodo exibat foras, ad portum se aibat ire :
 Me huc obuīam iussit sibi uenire ad Veneris fanum.
 Sed quos perconter commodē eccos uideo astare :
 adibo.

ACT II.

SCENE I.

(Enter Fishermen, R., coming from the town to their morning's work on the shore, L.)

F. Poor folks have in every way a wretched life of it, especially when they have nothing coming in and have not learnt any trade. Needs must they be content with what they have. From our get-up you can at once pretty well guess the extent of *our* wealth. These hooks and these rods are all we have to earn our living by. Day after day we go down to the sea here from the town to get supplies. This is all the athletics and sports *we* come in for. Sea-urchins, limpets, oysters, barnacles—we catch 'em all—shell-fish, stinging ray, mussels, striped flat-fish. And then we fall to fishing with hooks and from the rocks. The meals we eat we get from the sea. If we have no luck and never a fish comes to our net, very Knights of the Bath we go stealing home and so to bed supperless. And now, with the sea so rough, we can't look for a catch. Unless we get some shell-fish, no supper for us! Now to kind Venus here let us pray that this day may bring us right good luck.

SCENE II.

(Enter TRACHALIO, R., from the town, in search of his master, PLESIDIPPUS.)

TR. I have kept a sharp look-out, so as not to pass my master anywhere. When he went out a little time ago, he said he was going to the harbour. As for me, he told me to meet him here at Venus's temple. But, I say, just in the nick of time, there are fellows of whom I may inquire. I'll

- Saluete fures maritumi, conchitae atque hamiotae, 310
 Famelica hominum natio. quid agitis? ut peritis?
- Pl. Vt piscatorem aequomst, fame sitique. TR. Ec-
 quem adulescentem
 Nunc dum hic adstatis strenua facie, rubicundum,
 fortem,
 Vidistis, qui tris duceret chlamydatus cum machaeris? 315
- Pl. Nullum istac facie, ut praedicas, uenisse huc sci-
 mus. TR. Ecquem
 Recaluom ac silonem senem, statutum, uentriosum,
 Tortis superciliis, contracta fronte, fraudulentum,
 Deorum odium atque hominum, malum, mali uiti
 probrique plenum,
 Qui duceret mulierculas duas secum satis uenustas?
- Pl. Cum istius modi uirtutibus operisque natus qui sit, 321
 Eum quidem ad carnificemst aequius quam ad Vene-
 rem conneare.
- TR. At si uidistis, dicite. Pl. Huc profecto nullus uenit.
 Vale. TR. Valet. credidi: factumst quod suspi-
 cabar:
- Data uerba ero sunt: leno abit scelestus exulatum. 325
 In nauem ascendit, mulieres auexit: hariolus sum.
 Is huc erum etiam ad prandium uocauit, sceleris
 semen.
 Nunc quid mihi meliust, quam ilico hic opperiar
 erum dum ueniat?
- Eadem haec sacerdos Veneria si quidpiam amplius
 scit,
 Si uidero, exquisiuero: faciet me certiolem. 330

AMPELISCA. TRACHALIO.

AM. Intellego: hanc quae proxumast me uillam Veneris II 3
 fano
 Pulsare iussisti atque aquam rogare. TR. Quoia ad
 auris

to them. Good-morrow, riflers of the sea—Knights of the Shell and Hook—a starveling tribe! How do you do? How do you—don't?

F. Just like fishermen, dying of hunger and thirst!

TR. I say, have you seen a young fellow come here while you were by? a brisk-looking, ruddy, stout youth, with a company of three, dressed in cloaks and carrying swords?

F. We don't know of anyone answering to your description having come here.

TR. Or a bald-headed, snub-nosed old fellow, well set-up, pot-bellied—a beetle-browed, scowling rascal, the abomination of Gods and men—curse him!—a sink of iniquity and villainy, with two rather pretty girls at his heels?

F. If these are his qualities and such his record, 'twere fitter for him to make straight for the hangman than for Venus's temple.

TR. Do tell me if you have seen him.

F. He has certainly not been here at all, take our word for it. Good-bye. (*Exeunt FISHERMEN to shore, L.*)

TR. Good-bye to you! I thought as much. It has happened just as I expected: my master has been taken in, and that scoundrel of a dealer has fled the country. He's gone aboard ship and taken the girls with him. O my prophetic soul! He invited my master to luncheon here—the fountain of iniquity that he is! Now, what better course for me than to wait here until my master comes? In case I come across her, I'll take the opportunity to see whether the priestess of Venus here knows anything more. She will tell me.

SCENE III.

(*AMPELISCA enters from the temple, C., carrying a pitcher in her hand.*)

AM. I see; you'd have me knock at the cottage next to Venus's temple and ask for water?

TR. Whose voice is wafted to my ear?

- Vox mi aduolauit? AM. Obsecro, quis hic loquitur
quem ego uideo?
- TR. Estne Ampelisca haec, quae foras e fano egredi-
tur? AM. Estne hic
- Trachalio, quem conspicio, calator Plesidippi? 335
- TR. East. AM. Is est: Trachalio, salue. TR. Salue,
Ampelisca:
- Quid tu agis? AM. Aetatem haud malam male. TR.
Melius ominare.
- AM. Verum omnis sapientis decet conferre et fabulari.
Sed Plesidippus tuos erus ubi amabo, est? TR. Heia
uero,
- Quasi non sit intus. AM. Neque pol est neque huc
quidem ullus uenit. 340
- TR. Non uenit? AM. Vera praedicas. TR. Non est
meum, Ampelisca.
- Sed quam mox coctumst prandium? AM. Quod
prandium, obsecro te?
- TR. Nempe rem diuinam facitis hic? AM. Quid som-
nias, amabo?
- TR. Certe huc Labrax ad prandium uocauit Plesidippum,
Erum meum erus uoster. AM. Pol haud miranda
facta dicis: 345
- Si deos decepit et homines, lenonum more fecit.
- TR. Non rem diuinam facitis hic uos neque erus? AM.
Hariolare.
- TR. Quid tu agis hic igitur? AM. Ex malis multis me-
tuque summo
- Capitalique ex periculo orbas auxiliique opumque huc
Recepit ad se Veneria haec sacerdos me et Palae-
stram. 350
- TR. An hic Palaestrast, opsecro, eri mei amica? AM.
Certo.
- TR. Inest lepos in nuntio tuo magnus, mea Ampelisca.
Sed istuc periculum perlubet quod fuerit uobis scire.

AM. Mercy on us! who is speaking? Whom do I see?

TR. Can this be Ampelisca coming out of the temple?

AM. Can this be Trachalio whom I behold—Plesidippus's man?

TR. 'Tis she.

AM. 'Tis he. Good-morrow, Trachalio.

TR. Good-morrow, Ampelisca! Well, how are you?

AM. Sadly, in life's gay morn!

TR. Hush!

AM. In talking to one another, every sensible person ought to speak the truth. But where, my dear sir, is your master Plesidippus?

TR. Fie! fie! just as if he were not inside there!

AM. Indeed he's not; he has not been here at all.

TR. Not been here?

AM. And that's the truth!

TR. An unusual thing for me. But how long is it till lunch?

AM. Mercy me! what lunch?

TR. You are offering sacrifices here, aren't you?

AM. What are you dreaming about, my dear sir?

TR. All I know is that your master, Labrax, invited my master, Plesidippus, here to luncheon.

AM. Well, there's nothing odd about that. If he has swindled gods and men, he has done no more than dealers usually do.

TR. Are you not offering sacrifices here—you and my master?

AM. You are a teller of dreams.

TR. What are you doing here, then?

AM. Out of the depths of woe, from the extremity of fear and from mortal peril we were harboured here by Venus's priestess, Palaestra and I, helpless and destitute.

TR. Mercy me! is my master's friend, Palaestra, here?

AM. She is.

TR. What a delightful bit of news, Ampelisca mine! But I should dearly like to know what that peril of yours was.

AM. Confractast, mi Trachalio, hac nocte naus nobis.

TR. Quid naus? quae istaec fabulast? AM. Non
audiuisti, amabo,

355

Quo pacto leno clanculum nos hinc auferre uoluit
In Siciliam et quidquid domi fuit in nauem inposiuit?
Ea nunc perierunt omnia. TR. Io! Neptune,
salue:

Ne te aleator nullus est sapientior. profecto
Nimis lepide iecisti bolum: periurum perdidisti.
Sed nunc ubist leno Labrax? AM. Perijt potando,
opinor:

360

Neptunus magnis poculis hac nocte eum inuitauit.

TR. Credo hercle, anancaeo datum quod biberet. ut ego
amo te,

Mea Ampelisca: ut dulcis es: ut mulsa dicta dicis.
Sed tu et Palaestra quo modo saluae estis? AM. Sci-
bis faxo.

365

De naui timidae ambae in scapham insuluimus, quia
uidemus

Ad saxa nauem ferrier: properans exolui restim,
Dum illi timent. nos cum scapha tempestas dextro-
uorsum

Differt ab illis. itaque nos uentisque fluctibusque
Iactatae exemplis plurimis miserae perpetuam noc-
tem:

370

Vix hodie ad litus pertulit nos uentus exanimatas.

TR. Noui, Neptunus ita solet: quamuis fastidiosus
Aedilis est: si quae improbae sunt merces, iactat
omnis.

AM. Vae capiti atque aetati tuae. TR. Tuo, mea
Ampelisca.

375

Sed nunc ubist Palaestra. AM. I sane in Veneris
fanum huc intro:

Sedentem flentemque opprimes. TR. Vt iam istuc
mihi molestumst:

AM. Trachalio, our ship was wrecked last night.

TR. Ship? What are you talking about?

AM. Did you not hear, my dear man, how the dealer was going to take us off on the quiet from here to Sicily, and how he put on board ship all his belongings? They are now at the bottom of the sea, all of them.

TR. My blessing on you, good Neptune! Faith, you are the cunningest of dicers! 'Twas a very pretty cast of yours. You have wrecked the wretch. But where now is the dealer Labrax?

AM. He has drunk himself to death, I fancy. Neptune treated him to regular bumpers last night.

TR. Yes, indeed, he did get something to drink—no heel-taps! How fond I am of you, Ampelisca! How nice you are! Your words are like honey! But how did you and Palaestra get saved?

AM. I'll tell you. We jumped in a fright, both of us, into the boat, because we saw that the ship was running on the rocks. I hurried to loose the rope; panic had seized the crew. The storm drove us in our boat away from them to the right. And so we were tossed by wind and wave, enduring every form of wretchedness the whole night long. To-day the wind just managed to carry us ashore, more dead than alive!

TR. Yes, yes; that's Neptune's way! He is quite the most particular of inspectors. Whenever he finds good-for-nothing stuff, he pitches it overboard.

AM. Plague take you!

TR. And you, too, Ampelisca dear! But where is Palaestra?

AM. Just go into Venus's temple here and you'll find her sitting crying.

TR. I am sorry for that. But what are the tears for?

Sed quid flet? AM. Ego dicam tibi: hoc sese ex-
cruciat animi,

Quia leno ademit cistulam ei, quam habebat ubique
habebat,

Qui suos parentis noscere posset: eam ueretur

Ne perierit. TR. Vbinam ea fuit cistellula? AM. 390

Ibidem in naui

Conclisit ipse in uidulum, ne copia esset ei

Qui suos parentis nosceret. TR. O facinus inpu-
dum,

Quam liberam esse oporteat, seruire postulare,

AM. Nunc eum cum naui scilicet abisse pessum in altum. 395

Et aurum et argentum fuit lenonis omne ibidem.

TR. Credo aliquem inmersisse atque eum excepisse.

AM. Id misera maestast,

Sibi eorum euenisse inopiam. TR. Iam istoc magis
usus factost,

Vt eam intro consolerque eam, ne sic se excruciet
animi.

Nam multa praeter spem scio multis bona euenisse. 400.

AM. At ego etiam, qui sperauerint spem decepisse
multos.

TR. Ergo animus aequos optimumst aerumnae condi-
mentum.

Ego eo intro, nisi quid uis. AM. Eas, ego quod
mihi imperauit

Sacerdos id faciam atque aquam hinc de proxumo
rogabo.

Heus, ecquis in uillast? ecquis hoc recludit? ecquis
prodit?

SCEPARNIO. AMPELISCA.

SC. Quis est qui nostris tam proterue foribus facit iniuriam, II 4

AM. Ego sum. SC. Hem, quid hoc bonist? eu, edepol
specie lepida mulierem. 415

AM. I'll tell you. She's racked by the thought of the dealer having taken away a casket of hers in which she kept the tokens whereby she might be able to discover her parents. She's afraid it is lost.

TR. Where, then, was the casket?

AM. On board the ship with them. Labrax stowed it away in his wallet to prevent her from getting at what would help her to find her parents.

TR. What a scandalous shame to want to make a slave of a girl who ought to be free!

AM. Now, it is plain that the wallet has gone to the bottom in the ship; and all the dealer's gold and silver was inside.

TR. Perhaps somebody has dived in and got it out.

AM. This is just why the poor girl is so unhappy; her belongings are lost to her.

TR. Then all the more reason for my going in and comforting her; I must keep her from distressing herself. Be sure, "Thousands have blessings won beyond their hopes."

AM. Say rather, "Hope hath befooled a thousand votaries."

TR. But, "A cheery heart goes all the way and savours every sorrow."

TR. I am going in unless I can do anything for you. (*Exit TRACHALIO into temple, C.*)

AM. Yes, go! I'll do what the priestess bade me, and beg a little water from the neighbours here. She said they would give it at once, if I mentioned her name. Ho there! Is any one at home? Open the door, won't you? Is no one coming?

SCENE IV.

(*Enter SCEPARNIO from cottage, R.*)

SC. Who is this that does despite to our door in such headstrong fashion?

AM. It is I.

SC. Holloa! Here's a bit of luck! Well, by my troth, a pretty woman!

AM. Salue, adulescens. SC. Et tu multum salueto, adulescentula.

Sed quid ais, mea lepida, hilara? AM. Ah, nimium familiariter

420

Me attrectas. SC. Pro di immortales, Veneris ecfigia haec quidemst.

Vt in ocellis hilaritudost: heia, corpus quouis modi: Subuolturiumst—illud quidem 'subaquilum' uolui dicere.

AM. Nunc, quam ob rem huc sum missa, amabo uel tu mi aias uel neges.

430

SC. Quid nunc uis? AM. Sapienti ornatus quid uelim indicium facit.

SC. Meus quoque hic sapienti ornatus quid uelim indicium facit.

AM. Haec sacerdos Veneris hinc me petere aquam iussit cito.

SC. At ego basilicus sum: quem nisi oras, guttam non feres.

435

Nostro illum puteum periclo et ferramentis fodimus. Nisi multis blanditiis a me gutta non ferri potest.

AM. Quor tu aquam grauare amabo, quam hostis hosti commodat?

SC. Quor tu operam grauare mihi, quam ciuis ciui commodat?

440

AM. Immo etiam tibi, mea uoluptas, quae uoles faciam omnia.

SC. Eugepae, saluos sum: haec iam me suam uoluptatem uocat.

Dabitur tibi aqua, ne nequiquam me ames. cedo mi urnam. AM. Cape:

Propera amabo efferre. SC. Manta: iam hic ero, uoluptas mea.

AM. Quid sacerdoti me dicam hic demoratum tam diu?

Vt etiam nunc misera timeo, ubi oculis intueor mare.

Sed quid ego misera uideo procul in litore?

450

AM. Good-day to you, young man !

SC. And a very good-day to you, young woman ! But, I say, my pretty sweet—

AM. Go along ! You make too free with me !

SC. Heavens above ! Why, here we have the very image of Venus ! See her sweet smiling eyes ! Jove, what a figure ! —black as bruin,—I beg pardon, I meant to say bruinette.

AM. Come now, you'll oblige me by giving me an answer, yea or nay, to my errand.

SC. Well, what do you want ?

AM. A sensible person would only have to look at this to see what I want.

SC. And a sensible person would only have to look at me to see what I want.

AM. The priestess of Venus here has sent me to get some water from you.

SC. Ah, but I'm master here ! If you don't beg of me, you'll not get a drop. It was at our own charges and with our own tools that we dug that well there.

AM. Why do you make a fuss, my dear man, about water—a favour which strangers freely give to strangers ?

SC. Why do you make a fuss about a favour which friend freely bestows on friend ?

AM. Nay, then, sweetheart, I'll do anything you like to oblige you.

SC. Bravo ! I'm all right !—she has taken to calling me her sweetheart. You shall have your water. I couldn't let you love me for nothing. Reach me your pitcher !

AM. There it is ! Make haste and bring it out, there's a good man !

SC. Wait, I'll be back in a moment, sweetheart ! (*Exit SCEPARNIO into cottage, R.*)

AM. How can I excuse myself to the priestess for having stopped so long ? What a wretched fright I get into, even now, when I cast my eyes upon the sea ! But what, alas, do I behold yonder upon the shore ? My master, the dealer, and

Meum erum lenonem Siciliensemque hospitem,
 Quos periisse ambos misera censebam in mari.
 Iam illud mali plus nobis uiuit quam ratae.
 Sed quid ego cesso fugere in fanum ac dicere haec
 Palaestrae, in aram ut confugiamus prius quam is
 huc
 Scelestus leno ueniat nosque hic opprimat ? 455

SCEPARNIO.

Pro di immortales, in aqua numquam credidi, II 5
 Voluptatem inesse tantam : ut hanc traxi lubens !
 Nimio minus altus puteus uisust quam prius. 460
 Vt sine labore hanc extraxi ! praefiscine,
 Satin nequam sum, ut pote hodie amare incepterim ?
 En tibi aquam, mea tu belliata : em, sic uolo
 Te ferre honeste, ut ego fero, ut placeas mihi.
 Sed ubi tu's delicata ? cape aquam hanc sis. ubi's ?
 Amat hercle me, ut ego opinor : delituit mala. 466
 Vbi tu's ? etiamne hanc urnam acceptura's ? ubi's ?
 Commodule ludis. tandem uero serio.
 Etiam acceptura's urnam hanc ? ubi tu's gentium ?
 Nusquam hercle equidem illam uideo : ludos me
 facit. 470
 Adponam hercle urnam iam ego hanc in media uia.
 Sed autem quid si hanc hinc abstulerit quispiam
 Sacram urnam Veneris ? mi exhibeat negotium.
 Metuo hercle ne illa mulier mi insidias locet,
 Vt comprehendar cum sacra urna Veneria. 475
 Nempe optumo me iure in uinclis enicet
 Magistratus, si quis me hanc habere uiderit.
 Nam haec litteratast : eapse cantat quonia sit.
 Iam hercle euocabo hinc hanc sacerdotem foras,
 Vt hanc accipiat urnam. accedam huc ad fores. 480
 Heus, exi, Ptolemaecia, cape hanc urnam tibi :

his friend from Sicily, both of whom, alack, I thought had been lost at sea! Well, well, so much more trouble for us than we had thought! Don't let me lose a moment in fleeing into the temple and telling Palaestra, so that we may take refuge at the altar before this scoundrel of a dealer comes and finds us here. [*Exit AMPELISCA into temple, c.*]

SCENE V.

(*Enter SCEPARNIO from cottage, R.*)

Sc. Heavens above us! I never thought that water was so delightful! How my heart was in the drawing of it! Methought the well was ever so much shallower than before. How easily I drew it! save the mark! Am I not a dog of a fellow for never having fallen in love till this day? Here's the water for you, my beauty! There! that's how I would have you carry it—properly—as I do—and so will you gain my good graces. But where are you, honey? Here, take the water, won't you? Where are you? She's in love with me: by the powers, I really believe it! She's playing hide-and-seek, the rogue! Where are you? Are you not going to take this pitcher? Where have you got to? A passable joke! But now, really and truly, are you going to take this pitcher? Where in the world are you? Faith, I don't see her anywhere; she's making fun of me. Faith, I'll put the pitcher down here, right in the middle of the road. But softly! What if somebody should make away with it, this sacred pitcher of Venus? He would get me into a mess! Faith, I'm afraid that this woman is setting a trap for me to have me arrested with the goddess's sacred pitcher in my hand. Sure enough, the magistrate would have the best of grounds for locking me up and taking my life, if anybody saw me with it in my possession! Why, there's writing on it: that tells to whom it belongs. I' faith, I'll call the priestess out here to take the pitcher; I'll go up to the door. What ho! come out, Palaestra, and take this pitcher of yours!

Muliercula hanc nescio quae huc ad me detulit.
Intro ferundast. repperi negotium,
Si quidem his mihi ultro intro adgerunda etiamst
aqua.

LABRAX. CHARMIDES.

- LA. Homo qui sese miserum et mendicum uolet, II 6
Neptuno credat sese atque aetatem suam : 406
Nam si quis cum eo quid rei commiscuit,
Ad hoc exemplum amittit ornatum domum.
Sed ubi ille meus est hospes qui me perdidit ?
Atque eccum incedit. CH. Quo malum pro-
peras, Labrax ?
Nam equidem te nequeo consequi tam strenue.
- LA. Vtinam te prius quam ego oculis uidissem meis
Malo cruciatu in Sicilia perbiteres, 495
Quem propter hoc mihi optigit misero mali.
- CH. Vtinam quom in aedis me ad te adduxisti tuas
In carcere illo potius cubuissem dic :
- LA. Malam fortunam in aedis te adduxi meas.
Quid mihi scelesto tibi erat auscultatio ?
Quidue hinc abitio ? quidue in nauem incensio ?
Vbi perdidisti etiam plus boni quam mihi fuit.
- CH. Pol minime miror, nauis si fractast tibi, 505
Scelus te et sceleste parta quae uexit bona.
- LA. Pessum dedisti me blandimentis tuis.
Mendicitatem mi optulisti opera tua,
Dum tuis ausculto magnidicis mendaciis. 515
- CH. Bonamst quod habeas gratiam merito mihi,
Qui te ex insulso salsum feci opera mea.
- LA. Quin tu hinc is a me in maxumam malam
crucem.
- CH. Eas : easque res agebam commodum.

Some young woman or other brought it here to me. I must take it in-doors. My work's cut out for me, if I must carry the water for them into the bargain. (*Exit SCEPARNIO into temple, c.*)

SCENE VI.

(*Enter LABRAX from the shore (L.), followed after a brief interval by CHARMIDES.*)

LA. Anybody who wants to be a poor wretch of a beggar should just hand himself over, body and soul, to father Neptune. When a fellow has anything to do with *him*, this is the sort of quandary in which he lands him at home. But where is that friend of mine who has been the ruination of me? See him! there he comes!

CH. Where the mischief are you hurrying to? Why, I can't keep up with you at such a pace.

LA. How I wish that before I ever set eyes upon you, you had come to a bad end in Sicily, you gallows-bird! 'Tis all owing to you that this trouble has fallen on my unhappy head.

CH. How I wish that on the day when you brought me to your house, I had rather made my bed in the common jail!

LA. 'Twas an evil day for me when I brought you to my house. What possessed me ever to listen to you, or to go away from here, or to go on board ship?—where I have lost all I ever owned, and more too.

CH. 'Pon my word, I am not a bit surprised at the ship's being wrecked, when it carried a rascal like you and your rascally gains.

LA. You have done for me with your wheedling talk. It is all owing to you that I've been reduced to such a beggarly state, listening to your high-sounding mis-statements.

CH. You have every reason to feel obliged to me, for its owing to me that you have developed such a pretty wit.

LA. You go and be hanged!

CH. Go yourself! That is just what I was about to say.

LA. Eheu, quis uiuit me mortalis miserior?

CH. Ego multo tanto miserior quam tu, Labrax.

520

LA. Qui? CH. Quia ego indignus sum, tu dignu's
qui sies.

LA. O scirpe, scirpe, laudo fortunas tuas,
Qui semper seruas gloriam aritudinis.

CH. Equidem me ad uelitationem exerceo:

525

Nam omnia corusca prae tremore fabulor.

LA. Edepol, Neptune, es balineator frigidus:

Cum uestimentis postquam abs te abii, *al*-algeo.

Ne thermopolium quidem ullum *in*-instruit:

Ita salsam praehibet potionem et frigidam. 530

CH. Vt fortunati sunt fabri ferrarii,

Qui apud carbones adsident: semper calent.

LA. Vtinam fortuna nunc anetina *ut*-uterer,

Vt, quom exissem ex *aqu-aqu*-aqua, *ar*-arerem
tamen.

CH. Quid si aliquo ad ludos me pro manduco locem? 535

LA. Quapropter? CH. Quia pol clare crepito den-
tibus.

Iure optumo me *el-el*-elavisse arbitror.

LA. Qui? CH. *Qui*-quia auderem tecum in nauem
ascendere,

Qui a fundamento mi usque mouisti mare?

LA. Eheu, redactus sum usque ad unam hanc tuni-
culam

Et ad hoc misellum pallium: perii oppido.

550

CH. Vel consociare mihi quidem tecum licet:

Aequas habemus partis. LA. Saltem si mihi

Mulierculae essent saluae, spes aliquae forent.

Nunc si me adulescens Plesidippus uiderit,

Quo ab arrabonem pro Palaestra acceperam,

555

Iam is exhibebit hic mihi negotium.

CH. Quid, stulte, ploras? tibi quidem edepol copias,
Dum lingua uiuet, qui rem soluas omnibus.

LA. Alack, alack ! Show me a more miserable wretch than I.

CH. I am this much more wretched than you, Labrax—

LA. How ?

CH. Because I haven't deserved it and you have.

LA. Happy, happy the lot of those rushes there that ever keep so jolly dry !

CH. Faith, I'm getting into trim for a word-scrimmage ; I'm trembling so that every syllable I utter has the shivers.

LA. On my conscience, Neptune, you are a chilling bath-man : when I leave you, even with my clothes on, I ch-ch-chatter with cold. Not even hot drinks anywhere does he s-s-s-supply. Such a briny draught he provides, and with a chill on, too !

CH. Lucky fellows, blacksmiths, sitting ever beside the fire ! They're always warm.

LA. Would that I were a d-d-d-duck, so that when I came out of the water I should be as d-d-d-dry as ever !

CH. What if I were to hire myself out as a bogey at some show ?

LA. What for ?

CH. Because my teeth chatter so loudly. It serves me quite right. I deserve to be cl-cl-cl-cleaned out.

LA. How so ?

CH. B-b-because I was fool enough to go on board with you. 'Tis you who have turned the sea upside down for me.

LA. Alack ! I am reduced to this bit of a shirt and this scurvy cloak. I am utterly done for !

CH. I'll go into partnership with you, if you care to ; we are both in the same boat.

LA. If only the girls were safe, there would be something to hope for. As things are, if young Plesidippus catches sight of me—he who gave me part-payment for Palaestra—he'll lose no time in making things hot for me !

CH. What are you blubbering about, you ass ? You will always have enough, heaven knows, to pay your debts in full with, so long as you have that tongue of yours in your head.

SCEPARNIO. LABRAX. CHARMIDES.

- SC. Quid illuc opsecro negotist, quod duae mulierculae 11 7
 Hic in fano Veneris signum flentes amplexae tenent, 560
 Nescio quem metuentes miserae? nocte hac uero
 proxuma
 Se iactatas atque eiectas hodie esse aiunt e mari.
- LA. Opsecro hercle, adulescens, ubi istae sunt quas
 memoras mulieres?
- SC. Hic in fano Veneris. LA. Quot sunt? SC. Toti-
 dem quot ego et tu sumus.
- LA. Nempe meae? SC. Nempe nescio istuc. LA. Qua
 sunt facie? SC. Scitula. 565
- LA. Nempe puellae? SC. Nempe molestus es: i, uise,
 si lubet.
- LA. Meas oportet intus esse hic mulieres, mi Charmides.
- CH. Iuppiter te perdat, et si sunt et si non sunt tamen.
- LA. Intro rumpam iam huc in Veneris fanum. CH. In
 barathrum mauelim. 570
- Opsecro, hospes, da mihi aliquid ubi condormiscam
 loci.
- SC. Istic ubi uis condormisce: nemo prohibet, publi-
 cumst.
- CH. At uides me ornatus ut sim uestimentis uuidis.
 Recipe me in tectum, da mihi uestimenti aliquid
 aridi,
- Dum arescunt mea: in aliquo tibi gratiam referam
 loco.
- SC. Tegillum eccillud: mihi unum id aret: id si uis, dabo. 576
 Eodem amictus, eodem tectus esse soleo, si pluit.
 Tu istaec mihi dato: exarescent faxo. CH. Eho,
 an te paenitet,
- In mari quod elauit, hic in terra ni iterum eluam?

SCENE VII.

(Enter SCEPARNIO from temple, c.)

Sc. Mercy o' me! what's ado there? Two girls in this here temple tightly clasping Venus's statue! They are in tears, poor things, and there must be somebody or other that they are afraid of. Last night, they say, they were storm-tossed; they were cast ashore this morning—that's their story.

LA. Do tell me, I beg, young man, where are these women you speak of? Sc. Here in Venus's temple.

LA. How many of them are there?

Sc. As many as you and I together.

LA. They're mine, I'm sure? Sc. I'm sure I can't tell.

LA. What do they look like? Sc. Very nice girls.

LA. They're young girls, I'm sure?

Sc. I'm sure you're a nuisance. Go and look for yourself, if you want to.

LA. These girls inside here must be mine, friend Charmides.

CH. Deuce take you in either case, whether they are or whether they are not.

LA. I'll fling myself at once into the temple. *(Exit LABRAX into temple.)*

CH. I had rather you'd fling yourself to perdition. *(To SCEP.)* I pray you, sir, give me some corner to sleep in.

Sc. Sleep where you are—anywhere you like—no one will hinder you: it's a thoroughfare.

CH. Nay, but you see what wet clothes I've got on. Take me indoors and give me some dry clothes while mine are drying. Some day I'll do as much for you.

Sc. See, here's a wrap! 'Tis the only thing I have that's dry. I'll give it you, if you like. This serves me for coat—yes, and for great-coat, too, when it rains. Give me your toggery; I'll have it dried.

CH. 'Sdeath! Are you not satisfied after I have been cleaned out at sea but that I must be cleaned out on shore again?

- SC. Eluas tu an exungere, ciccum non interduim. 580
Tibi ego numquam quicquam credam nisi si accepto
pignore.
Tu uel suda uel peri algu uel tu aegrota uel uale.
Barbarum hospitem mi in aedis nil moror : sat li-
tiumst.
- CH. Iamne abis ? uenalis illic ductitauit, quisquis est :
Non est misericors. sed quid ego hic asto infelix uui-
dus ? 585
Nunc lenonem quid agit intus uisam, conuiuam meum.

580 Sc. Whether you are cleaned out or wiped out, I don't care a pip. I'll never entrust anything to you without getting a pledge from you. You can frizzle or freeze to death ; you can be well or ill—I want no guests from foreign parts in the house, and there's an end of it! (*Exit SCEPARNIO into cottage, R.*)

585 Ch. So you're off, are you? That man, whoever he is, has been a slave-trader. He hasn't a spark of pity. But why am I standing here, poor soaked wretch that I am? Now I'll go see what my friend the dealer is doing. (*Exit CHARMIDES into temple, C.*)

ACT III.

SCENE I.

(Enter DAEMONES from his cottage, R.)

DAE. Strange are the ways that the gods have of playing tricks on men. Even when we sleep they will not let us rest. Now, last night, for instance, I had a strange, uncanny dream. An ape, methought, was trying to climb up into a nest of swallows: but she could not clear them out. Thereupon, I thought the ape came up to me and begged for the loan of a ladder. I made answer to the ape as follows: Swallows, I said, were the descendants of Philomela, an Athenian. I charged the ape not to do any harm to my fellow-countrymen. With this she became much more aggressive. She looked as if she were actually going to give me fits. She summoned me into court. Then, somehow or other, methought in anger I seized the brute round the waist—I succeed in chaining the villainous beast. Now, as to what this dream may portend, I have been unable, so far, to divine. But what racket is this getting up in Venus's temple hard by? I'm all amaze.

SCENE II.

(Enter TRACHALIO from the temple (C) in great haste.)

TR. Help, men of Cyrene, fellow-countrymen! I implore your aid! Yeomen! ye who live in the district here, bring

Ferte opem inopiae atque exemplum pessumum.
pessum date.

Vindicate, ne inpiorum potior sit pollentia
Quam innocentum, qui se scelere fieri nolunt nobilis:
Statuite exemplum inpudenti, date pudori prae-
mium :

620

Facite hic lege potius liceat quam ui uicto uiuere.
Currite huc in Veneris fanum, uostram iterum in-
ploro fidem,

Qui prope hic adestis quique auditis clamorem meum.
Ferte suppetias qui Veneri Veneriaeque antistitae
More antiquo in custodelam suum commiserunt caput.
Praetorquete iniuriae prius collum quam ad uos
peruenat.

626

DAE. Quid istuc est negoti? TR. Per ego haec genua
te optestor, senex,

Quisquis es—— DAE. Quin tu ergo omitte genua
et quid sit mi expedi,

Quod tumultues. TR. —teque oro et quaeso, si
speras tibi——

Hoc anno multum futurum sirpe et laserpicium
Eamque euenturam exagogam Capuam saluam et
sospitem,

630

Atque ab lippitudine usque siccitas ut sit tibi——

DAE. Sanun es? TR. —seu tibi confidis fore multam
magudarim,

Vt te ne pigeat dare operam mihi quod te orabo, se-
nex.

DAE. At ego te per crura et talos tergumque obtestor
tuom,

635

Vt, tibi ulmeam ni metere speras uirgidemiam
Et tibi euenturam hoc anno uberem messem mali,
Vt mi istuc dicas negoti quid sit, quod tumultues.

TR. Qui lubet maledicere? equidem tibi bona optaui
omnia.

help to the helpless and aver! a dastardly deed! Champion my cause, that the might of the wicked shall not prove stronger than that of those blameless ones who shrink from the distinction of being the victims of an outrage! Make an example of insolence and reward virtue. Enable us to live here according to law rather than under the constraint of brute force. Hasten to Venus's temple here! Again I implore your aid, you who are standing here near at hand, and who hear my cry. Come to the rescue of those who, claiming a time-honoured privilege, have entrusted their fortunes to the protection of Venus and her priestess. Choke off this outrage before it can touch your own marrow.

DAE. What's the matter there?

TR. Claspng you by the knees, I beseech you, sir, whoever you are—

DAE. Never mind my knees, and let me know what this uproar is about.

TR. I beg and beseech you, if you are hoping to have plenty of silphium and assafœtida this year and to get your consignments to Capua safe and sound, and never to suffer from rheumy eyes—

DAE. Are you in your right mind?

TR. If you are hoping for a good harvest of seed, don't hesitate, good sir, to give the aid I beg.

DAE. And I beg and beseech you by your shanks and shins and your hide, too, unless you want to have fine crops of elm rods and lashes this year,—tell me what the cause of all this uproar is.

TR. Why should you give me the rough side of your tongue? I wished you nothing but good luck.

DAE. Bene equidem tibi dico, qui te digna ut eueniant
precor.

640

TR. Obsecro, hoc praeuortere ergo. DAE. Quid nego-
tist? TR. Mulieres

Duae innocentes intus hic sunt, tui indigentes auxili,
Quibus aduersum ius legesque hic insignite iniuria
Factast fitque in Veneris fano. tum sacerdos Veneria
Indigne adflctatur. DAE. Quis homost tanta con-
fidentia,

Qui sacerdotem audeat uiolare? sed eae mulieres 646
Quae sunt? aut quid is iniqui fit? TR. Si das
operam, eloquar.

Veneris signum sunt amplexae: nunc homo auda-
cissimus

Eas deripere uolt. eas ambas esse oportet liberas.

DAE. Quis istic est, qui deos tam parui pendit? paucis
expedi.

650

TR. Fraudis, sceleris, parricidi, periuri plenissimus,
Legirupa, inprudens, inpurus, inuerecundissimus:
Vno uerbo absoluam, lenost: quid illum porro prae-
dicem?

DAE. Edepol infortunio hominem praedicas donabilem.

TR. Qui sacerdoti scelestus faucis interpreterit. 655

DAE. At malo hercle cum magno suo fecit. ite istinc
foras,

Turbatio, Sparax: ubi estis? TR. I opsecro intro,
subueni

Illis. DAE. Iterum autem imperabo? sequimini
hac. TR. Age nunciam,

Iube oculos elidere, itidem ut sepiis faciunt coqui.

DAE. Proripite hominem pedibus huc itidem quasi occisam
suem—

TR. Audio tumultum: opinor, leno pugnus pectitur.
Nimis velim improbissime homini malas edentau-
erint.

Sed eccas ipsae huc egrediuntur timidae e fano mu-
lieres.

DAE. But I am giving you the smooth side of my tongue, when I pray that you may get your deserts.

TR. Well, look to this, I beg you. DAE. What's the matter?

TR. There are two innocent girls inside here who need help of you. In defiance of law and justice, they have been scandalously maltreated in Venus's temple—and it's still going on. Besides, the priestess of Venus is being shamefully handled.

DAE. What villain has the effrontery to lay violent hands on a priestess? These girls, who are they? what wrong is being done to them?

TR. Listen to me and I'll tell you. They're clinging to Venus's statue; at this very moment the brazen-faced rascal is bent on tearing them away. By rights they should both be free.

DAE. Who is the man that holds the gods so cheap?—briefly now.

TR. A very sink of iniquity and crime, blood-guiltiness and perjury! A lawless, shameless, dirty, most obscene rascal—in a word, a trafficker in human beings. What need of further description?

DAE. That's the description of one who would be the better for a horse-whipping.

TR. Yes, and the wretch took the priestess by the throat.

DAE. By the powers, he will pay dear for that! (*goes to the door of his cottage.*) Come out here, Turbalio, Sparax! where are you? TR. Go inside, pray, and rescue them.

DAE. Must I speak twice? this way.

TR. Come on now; tell them to knock his eyes out just as cooks do to cuttle-fish. (*Exit DAEMONES into temple, and slaves (LORARI) follow him.*)

DAE. Pull him out by the feet, just like a stuck pig.

TR. (*listening.*) Hark at that noise! They are taking their fists to the dealer, and I fancy he is getting a good combing down. I only hope they have knocked the rascal's teeth down his throat. But, see, there are the two girls coming out of the temple, scared and pale as death.

PALAESTRA. AMPELISCA. TRACHALIO.

PA. Nunc id est, quom omnium copiarum atque opum, III 3
 Auxili, praesidi uiduitas nos tenet. 665

Nulla spes nec uiast quae salutem adferat,
 Nec scimus quam in partem ingredi persequamur.
 Quid ais, Ampelisca? AM. In metu nunc sumus
 ambae.

Tanta inportunitas tantaque iniuria
 Facta in nos est modo hic intus ab nostro ero. 670

PA. Quin scelestus sacerdotem anum praecipēs
 Reppulit, propulit perquam indignis modis
 Nosque ab signo intumo ui deripuit sua.

AM. Sed nunc se ut ferunt res fortunaeque nostrae,
 Par nos est moriri neque est melius morte 675
 Malis in rebus, miseriis.

TR. Quid est? quae illaec oratiost?

Cesso ego has consolari? Heus, Palaestra. PA.
 Qui uocat?

TR. Ampelisca! AM. Obsecro, quis is est qui nominat?

TR. Si respexis, scies.

AM. O salutis meae spes—. TR. Tace ac bono animo's :
 Sedete hic modo: ego hinc uos tamen tutabor. aram
 habete hanc

Vobis pro castris : moeniam manu : hinc ego defen-
 sabo.

Praesidio Veneris malitiae lenonis contra incedam.

PA. et AM. Tibi auscultamus et, Venus alma, ambae te
 obsecramus

Aram amplexantes hanc tuam lacrumantes, genibus
 nixae, 695

In custodelam nos tuam ut recipias et tutere :

Illos scelestos, qui tuum fecerunt fanum parui,

Vt ulciscare nosque ut hanc tua pace aram obsidere

SCENE III.

(PALAESTRA and AMPELISCA rush out of the temple in despair.)

PA. Now, now are we bereft of every resource and aid, and destitute of help and protection. There is no hope ; there is no way of deliverance, and we know not where to turn our steps.

AM. Alas, we are now in an extremity of fear, both of us. Such brutality, such outrage has just been offered us inside here by our own master.

PA. Yes, and the infuriated wretch has hustled the aged priestess up and down in the most shameful manner, and has dragged us by force from the statue in the inmost shrine.

AM. As things are and as our fortunes now stand, we might just as well be dead. There is no remedy in misfortune better than death.

TR. What's the matter? What sort of talk is that? Let me hasten to comfort them. Ho, Palaestra!

PA. Who calls?

TR. Ampelisca!

AM. Who calls my name?

TR. Look round, and you'll know.

PA. O promise of deliverance!

TR. Hush! Keep up your spirits. Just sit down here. I will protect you from this quarter, come what may. Let this altar be your castle. This hand shall guard it. I will defend you on this side. By Venus's help, I will out-general the slave-dealer's evil strategy.

AM. and PA. (*kneeling before the altar.*) We obey; and, gracious Venus, we both implore thee, and, clasping this thine altar, in tears and on bended knee, beseech thee to take us under thy protection and keep us safe. Punish those wicked men who have slighted thy fane, and permit us of thy grace to take

Sinas, quae elautae ambae sumus opera Neptuni
noctu :

Ne inuisas habeas neue idcirco nobis uitio uortas, 700

Si quidpiamst minus quod bene esse lautum tu ar-
bitrare

TR. Venus, aequom has petere intellego : decet abs te id
impetrari :

Ignoscere his te conuenit : metus has id ut faciant
subigit.

Sed optume eccum exit senex, patronus mihique et
uobis. 705

DAEMONES. LABRAX. LORARI. TRACHALIO.
PALAESTRA ET AMPELISCA.

DAE. Exi e fano, natum quantumst hominum sacrilegis- III 4
sume.

Vos in aram abite sessum, sed ubi sunt? TR. Huc
respice.

DAE. Optume : istuc uolueramus. iube modo accedat
prope.

Tun legirupionem hic nobis cum dis facere postulas?

Pugnum in os inpinge. LA. Iniqua haec patior
cum pretio tuo. 710

DAE. At etiam minitatur audax. LA. Ius meum erep-
tumst mihi ;

Meas mihi ancillas inuito me eripis. TR. Cedo
arbitrum

De senatu Cyrenensi quemuis opulentum virum

Si tuas esse oportet niue oportet esse liberas,

Neu te in carcerem conpingi est aequom aatemque
ibi tuam 715

Te usque habitare, donec totum carcerem contriueris.

LA. Non hodie isti rei auspicaui, ut cum furcifero fa-
buler.

refuge at thine altar. We have lost our all in Neptune's bath this night. Spurn us not nor impute any blame to us, if thou deemest that our garb is somewhat unseemly.

TR. Venus, methinks their prayer is reasonable. 'Twere meet for thee to grant their petition; fitly mayst thou pardon them. Fear forces them to this step. But, see, yonder comes the old man in the very nick of time—my protector and yours.

SCENE IV.

(Enter DAEMONES from the temple (C.), followed by LABRAX in the custody of the LORARI.)

DAE. Out of the temple there, you most impious of scoundrels ever born! (*To the girls.*) Do you go and sit down by the altar. But where are they?

TR. Look here, this way.

DAE. Capital! exactly as I wished. Only let him come near them. (*To LABRAX.*) Do you expect us to look on while you outrage all that is holy? (*To slaves.*) Give him one between the eyes! (*They beat him.*)

LA. You shall pay for this affront.

DAE. What, does the rascal venture to threaten?

LA. I am robbed of my rights. You are robbing me of my girls in my own despite.

TR. Name an arbitrator from the senate of Cyrene—any responsible man—to decide whether these girls ought to be your slaves or ought to be free, and whether you ought not to be clapped into prison—there to lie until you have worn out your cell.

LA. I did not come prepared to day to hold converse with a gallows-bird. (*To DAEMONES.*) I appeal to you, sir.

- Te ego appello. DAE. Cum istoc primum qui te
nouit disputa.
- LA. Tecum ago. TR. Atqui necum agundumst. suntne
illae ancillae tuae?
- LA. Sunt. TR. Agedum ergo, tange utramuis digitulo
minumo modo, — 720
- LA. Quid, si attigero? TR. Extemplo hercle ego te
follem pugilatorium
Faciam et pendentem incursabo pugnis, periuris-
sume.
- LA. Mihi non liceat meas ancillas Veneris de ara abdu-
cere?
- DAE. Non licet: est lex apud nos — LA. Mihi cum uo-
stris legibus
Nec ciccumst commercii: equidem istas iam ambas
educam foras. 725
- DAE. Occipito modo illis adferre uim ioculo pausillulum:
Ita ego te hinc ornatum amittam, tu ipsus te ut non
noueris. 730
- LA. Vi agis mecum. TR. Etiam opprobras uim, flagiti
flagrantia?
- LA. Tun trifurcifer mihi audes inclementer dicere?
- TR. Fateor, ego trifurcifer sum: tu's homo adprime
probus: 735
- Numqui minus hasce esse oportet liberas? LA.
Quid, liberas?
- TR. Atque eras tuas quidem hercle atque ex germana
Graecia:
Nam altera haec est nata Athenis ingenuis paren-
tibus.
- DAE. Quid ego ex te audio? TR. Hanc Athenis esse
natam liberam.
- DAE. Mea poplaris opsecro haec est? TR. Non tu
Cyrenensis es? 740
- DAE. Immo Athenis natus altusque educatusque Atticis.

DAE. Address yourself first to the person there who knows you.

LA. My business is with you.

TR. Nay, you must deal with me. Are these girls yours?

LA. Yes.

TR. Come on then! Just you touch one of them with the tip of your little finger!

LA. What if I do?

TR. Zounds! I'll hang you up for a punching-bag—right off, and pummel you with my fists, you liar!

LA. Can't I take away my own girls from the altar?

DAE. You can't! There is a law in our country—

LA. I've nothing to do with your laws. I will take both of them away at once.

DAE. Just you begin to offer them the least little bit of indignity, even in fun, and I'll send you home such a beauty that you won't know yourself.

LA. This is assault and battery.

TR. Assault and battery, you scoundrelly scamp?

LA. Such impudence to me, you double-dyed villain?

TR. All right, I am a double-dyed villain—and you are a highly honourable gentleman. Is that any reason why these ladies should not have their freedom?

LA. Freedom, say you?

TR. Yes, and what's more, they are your betters, and come of the pure Greek stock, for this one here is a native of Athens, of free-born family.

DAE. What's that you're saying?

TR. (*pointing to Palaestra.*) This is a free-born lady of Athens.

DAE. Dear me! is she a country-woman of mine?

TR. Don't you belong to Cyrene?

DAE. No, I was born, bred and brought up at Athens—Athens in Attica.

TR. Opsecro, defende ciuis tuas, senex. DAE. O filia,
Mea quom hanc uideo mearum me absens miseria-
rum communes :

Trima quae periit mihi, iam tanta esset, si uiuit, scio.

LA. Argentum ego pro istis ambabus, quoniae erant
domino dedi. 745

Quid mea refert, Athenis natae haec an Thebis sient,
Dum mihi recte seruitutem seruiant? TR. Itane,
inpudens?

DAE. Quom coniecturam egomet mecum facio, haec illast
simia,

Quae has hirundines ex nido uolt eripere ingratiis,
Quod ego in somnis somniaui. TR. Scin quid tecum
oro, senex?

Vt illas serues, uim defendas, dum ego erum adduco
meum.

DAE. Quaere erum atque adduce. TR. At hic ne——

DAE. Maxumo malo suo,

Si attigerit siue occeptassit. TR. Cura. DAE. Cura-
tumst : abi. 775

TR. Hunc quoque adserua ipsum, ne quo abitat. nam
promisimus

Carnufici aut talentum magnum aut hunc hodie
sistere.

DAEMONES. LABRAX. PALAESTRA. AMPELISCA. LORARII

DAE. Vtrum tu leno cum malo lubentius III 5

Quiescis an sic sine malo, si copias?

LA. Minacias ego flocci non facio tuas : 795

Equidem has te inuito iam ambas rapiam. DAE.
Tangedum.

LA. Tangam hercle uero. DAE. Tange, sed scin quo
modo?

TR. I pray you, sir, protect your country-women.

DAE. O daughter mine, as I look upon this maid, the memory of one who is far away brings back my grief. I lost her when she was three years old, and now she must be just that age, I am sure, if she is alive.

LA. I paid money down for both of these girls to the master who owned them. What care I whether they were born at Athens or Thebes, so long as they are my lawful property?

TR. Say you so, knave?

DAE. (*aside.*) When I put two and two together, this must be the ape that wants to snatch these swallows from their nest in my despite—as I dreamed in my dream.

TR. I have a favour to beg of you, sir. Keep those girls safe, guard them from ill-usage, while I go and fetch my master.

DAE. Go find him and bring him here.

TR. But don't let him—

DAE. He'll get it precious hot if he lays a finger on them, or tries to.

TR. Be watchful!

DAE. That's all right, you be off!

TR. Keep an eye on this rascal as well, that he doesn't give you the slip. We have promised the hangman an Attic talent if we fail to produce him this day.

SCENE V.

DAE. Which will you have, dealer—take a thrashing to make you quiet or keep quiet without one? Take your choice!

LA. I don't care a jot for your threats. I will carry off both of them, willy, nilly!

DAE. You just touch them!

LA. I'll touch them, fast enough.

DAE. Touch them, will you? Let me tell you what that'll

Idum Turbalio curriculo, adfer celeriter
 Duas clauas. TURB. Clauas? DAE. Sed probas :
 propera cito.

Ego te hodie faxo recte acceptum, ut dignus es. 800
 L.A. Eheu, scelestus galeam in naui peridi :

Nunc mi opportuna hic esset, salua si foret.
 Licet saltem istas mi appellare? DAE. Non licet.
 Ehem, optume edepol eccum clauator aduenit. 805

L.A. Illud quidem edepol tinnimentumst auribus.
 DAE. Age, accipe illanc alteram clauam, Sparax.

Age, alter istinc, alter hinc adsistite.
 Adsistite ambo. sic. audite nunciam :

Si hercle illic illas hodie digito tetigerit
 Inuitas, ni istunc istis inuitassitis 810

Vsque adeo, donec qua domum abeat nesciat,

Peristis ambo. si appellabit quempiam,

Vos respondetote istinc istarum uicem.

Sin ipse abitere hinc uolet, quantum potest, 815

Extemplo amplectitote crura fustibus.

L.A. Etiam me abire hinc non sinent? DAE. Dixi satis.

Et ubi ille seruos cum ero huc ad vos uenerit,

Qui erum arcessiuit, itote extemplo domum.

Curate haec sultis magna diligentia. 820

L.A. Heu, hercle ne istic fana mutantur cito :

Iam hoc Herculist, modo Veneris fanum quod fuit :

Ita duo destituit signa hic cum clauis senex.

Non hercle quo hinc nunc gentium aufugiam scio :

Ita nunc mi utrumque saeuit, et terra et mare. 825

Palaestra. LO. Quid uis? L.A. Apage, controuer-
 siast :

Haec quidem Palaestra quae respondit non meast.

Heus, Ampelisca. LO. Caue sis infortunio.

L.A. Vt potis est, ignaui homines satis recte monent.

Sed uobis dico, heus vos num molestiaest,

Me adire ad illas propius? LO. Nil—nobis quidem. 830

cost you. Off you go, Turbalio, at full speed, and bring two clubs here from my house.

TURB. Clubs?

DAE. And stout ones at that. Hurry up! I'll see that you have the warm reception you deserve.

LA. Alack, alack, what a fool I was to lose my head-piece on board ship! It would come in handy at this moment, if it were to the fore. Well, I may, at least, go up and speak to them.

DAE. No, you may not! (*Enter TURBALIO, bearing two clubs.*) Ha, ha! Here comes my club-man, i' faith, in the very nick of time.

LA. I' faith, my ears begin to tingle at that.

DAE. Here, Sparax! Take one of those two clubs there! Here, stand one of you on this side—the other on that! As you are, now, both of you! Attention! If the rascal lays a finger upon those girls this day against their will, and you fail to take your will of him with your clubs, till he doesn't know his way home—then it's all up with both of you. If he accosts either of them, do you answer in her name from where you stand. If, on the other hand, he tries to make off from here, do you lay about his shins with your clubs, there and then, with all your might.

LA. What! are they not to let me budge from here?

DAE. I have spoken. And when Trachalio gets here with his master—he has gone to fetch him—then do you both come indoors without delay. Be very careful about this, if you please.

LA. Odds clubs! How quickly these here temples change hands. A moment ago our patron saint was the Queen of Hearts,—now it is the King of Clubs, to judge by the two club-armed effigies which this old gentleman has set up. I' faith, I know not where in the world to be off to. Things are hot for me now, either way—sea and shore alike. Palaestra!

Lo. What is it?

LA. You get out! I'm not friends with you! That's not my Palaestra who answers. Ho, Ampelisca!

Lo. Just you keep out of mischief!

LA. Pretty good advice from poltroons,—so far as that's possible! But, ho you there!—will there be any harm if I go a bit nearer to them?

Lo. None—to us.

- LA. Numquid molestum mihi erit? LO. Nil—si caueris.
 LA. Quid est quod caueam? LO. Em, a crasso in-
 fortunio.
 LA. Quaeso hercle abire ut liceat. LO. Abeas, si uelis—
 LA. Bene hercle factum: uobis habeo gratiam. 835
 Noncedam potius. LO. Illic astato ilico.
 LA. Edepol proueni nequiter multis modis:
 Certumst hasce hodie usque obsidione uincere.

PLESIDIPPVS. TRACHALIO. LABRAX. LORARII.
 PALAESTRA ET AMPELISCA. CHARMIDÈS.

- PL. Meamne ille amicam leno ui, uiolentia III 6
 De ara deripere Veneris uoluit? TR. Admodum 840
 PL. Quin occidisti extemplo? TR. Gladius non erat.
 PL. Caperes aut fustem aut lapidem. TR. Quid, ego
 quasi canem
 Hominem insectarer lapidibus nequissimum?
 LA. Nunc pol ego perii: Plesidippus eccum adest:
 Conuorret iam hic me totum cum puluisculo. 845
 PL. Etiamne in ara tunc sedebant mulieres,
 Quom ad me profectu's ire? TR. Ibidem nunc
 sedent.
 PL. Quis illas nunc illic seruat? TR. Nescio quis senex,
 Vicinus Veneris is dedit operam optumam:
 Is nunc cum seruis seruat: ego mandaueram. 850
 PL. Duc me ad lenonem recta. ubi illic est homo?
 LA. Salue. PL. Salutem nil moror. opta ocus,
 Rapi te obtorto collo mauis an trahi:
 Vtrumuis opta, dum licet. LA. Neutrum uolo.
 PL. Abi sane ad litus curriculo, Trachalio, 855
 Iube illos in urbem ire obuiam ad portum mihi,
 Quos mecum duxi, hunc qui ad carnificem tra-
 derent:

LA. Will there be any harm to me ?

LO. None, if you're careful.

LA. Careful about what ?

LO. Why ? to keep clear of a good sound hiding.

LA. Do let me go, I beg.

LO. O, you may go, if you like.

LA. It's very good of you ; I am much obliged. I had rather not go. Do you stay just where you are. Gad ! I've had wretched luck at every turn. I am determined to keep up the siege to-day, till I gain the victory over them.

SCENE VI.

(Enter PLESIDIPPUS and TRACHALIO from the shore, L.)

PL. And so the dealer tried to tear my lady from Venus's altar by might and main, did he ?

TR. That's so.

PL. Why didn't you slay him on the spot ?

TR. I hadn't a sword.

PL. You should have got hold of a club, or else a stone.

TR. What ! would you have me chivy him with stones, as though he were a dog, arrant rascal that he is ?

LA. (*catching sight of him.*) Gad ! I'm done for now. See, here's Plesidippus. He'll make a clean sweep of me now, to the last speck.

PL. And you tell me they were sitting at the altar—the girls—when you started to find me ?

TR. Yes, and they're sitting there still.

PL. Who's looking after them now ?

TR. Some old gentleman or other—Venus's next-door neighbour—he has been extremely attentive. At this moment he and his slaves are looking after them. I put them in his charge.

PL. Take me straight to the dealer. Where is the fellow ?

LA. Good morning.

PL. Plague take your good mornings ! Quick ! Make your choice—will you be rushed off to prison by the scruff of the neck, or will you wait to be arrested ? Choose, while you may.

LA. Neither, please.

PL. Off you go to the sea-shore, Trachalio, as fast as your legs will take you, and bid my friends come to the city and meet me at the harbour—the gentlemen who came along with me—to get this rascal handed over to the police. Then come

Post huc redito atque agitato hic custodiam.
Age, ambula in ius. LA. Quid ego deliqui? PL.

Rogas? 860

Quine arrabonem a me accepisti ob mulierem
Et eam hinc auexti? LA. Non auexi. PL. Quor
negas?

LA. Quia pol prouexi: auehere non quiui miser.
Equidem tibi me dixeram praesto fore,
Apud Veneris fanum: numquid muto? sumne ibi? 865

PL. In iure causam dicito: hic uerbum sat est.
Sequere. LA. Obsecro te, subueni, mi Charmides:
Rapior optorto collo. CH. Quis me nominat?

LA. Viden me ut rapior? CH. Video atque inspecto
lubens.

LA. Non subuenire mi audes? CH. Quis homo te rapit? 870

LA. Adulescens Plesidippus. CH. Vt nanctu's, habe:
Bono animo meliust te in neruom conrepere:
Tibi optigit quod plurumi exoptant sibi.

LA. Quid id est? CH. Vt id quod quaerant inueniant
sibi.

LA. Sequere, obsecro, me. CH. Pariter suades, qualis es: 875
Tu in neruom rapere: eo me obsecras ut te sequar.

PL. Tu mea Palaestra et Ampelisca, ibidem ilico
Manete, donicum huc redeo. LO. Equidem suadeo
Vt ad nos abeant potius, dum recipis. PL. Placet.

LA. Hospes,— CH. Non sum hospes: repudio hospi-
tium tuum.

LA. Sicine me spernis? CH. Sic ago: semel fel bibo.
Verum tamen ibo, ei aduocatus ut siem,
Siqui mea opera citius— addici potest. 890

back and stand on guard here. (*To LABRAX*) Come, march off to the police-station. LA. What is my offence?

PL. What a question! Was it not you who got me to give part-payment for the woman, and then carried her off?

LA. I did not carry her off. PL. Why deny it?

LA. Faith, because I brought her on; unfortunately, I could not carry her off. I told you I would be on hand at Venus's temple. I'm keeping my word, am I not? I'm here?

PL. You can state your case at the station; we've had enough chatter here. Come along! (*lays hold of him.*)

LA. (*aloud.*) To the rescue, Charmides, I beg of you! I am being rushed off to prison by the nape of the neck.

CH. (*Entering from the temple, c.*) Who is shouting for me?

LA. Just look at the way they're rushing me off.

CH. I'm looking; it's a pleasing spectacle.

LA. Won't you try to rescue me?

CH. Who is it that's hustling you away?

LA. Young Plesidippus.

CH. Well, you've made your bed and you must lie on it. If you have to go to the lock-up, you may as well put a good face on it. Luck has put in your way what many a man earnestly desires. LA. What's that?

CH. Why, to reach his proper goal.

LA. Come with me, there's a good fellow.

CH. Just like you! You're being run in, and you are begging me to go along with you.

PL. Palacstra dear, and Ampelisca, too, stay just where you are till I come back.

LO. Really, sir, I recommend that they come to us rather, till you get back. PL. All right.

LA. Dear friend—(*To Charmides.*)

CH. I'm not your dear friend; I renounce your friendship.

LA. Is it thus you spurn me?

CH. Yes, that's my line: once bit, twice shy. (*PLESIDIPPUS drags LABRAX off. The LORARI and the women go into Daemones' cottage, R.*) For all that I'll go and give him my backing, in the hope that I may help to get him more quickly—convicted.

ACTVS IIII.

DAEMONES.

Bene factum et uolup est hodie me his mulierculis IV 1
 Tetulisse auxilium : iam cluentas repperi,
 Atque ambas forma scitula atque aetatula.
 Sed uxor scelestas me omnibus seruat modis, 895
 Ne qui significem quidpiam mulierculis.
 Sed Gripus seruos noster quid rerum gerat
 Miror, de nocte qui abiit piscatum ad mare.
 Pol magis sapisset, si dormiuisset domi :
 Nam nunc et operam ludos facit et retia, 900
 Vt tempestas est nunc atque ut noctu fuit.
 In digitis hodie percoquam quod ceperit :
 Ita fluctuare uideo uehementer mare.
 Sed ad prandium uxor me uocat: redeo domum.
 Iam meas opplebit auris uaniloquentia. 905

GRIPVS.

Neptuno hasce ago gratias meo patrono, IV 2
 Qui salsis locis incolit pisculentis,
 Quom med ex suis pulcre ornatum expediuit
 Templis reducem pluruma praeda onustum
 Salute horiae, quae in mari fluctuoso 910
 Piscatu nouo me uberi conpotiuit.
 Miroque modo atque incredibili hic piscatus mihi
 lepide evenit,
 Neque piscium ullam unciam pondo hodie cepi,
 nisi hoc quod fero hic in rete.
 Nam ut de nocte multa inpigreque exsurrexi, 915

ACT III.

SCENE I.

(Enter DAEMONES from his cottage, R.)

DAE. It's a good thing that I helped these girls to-day, and I'm glad of it. I've chanced on a couple of *protégées*, both of them young and pretty. But that shrew of a wife of mine keeps her eye on me at every turn, to prevent me from making the slightest sign to my young friends. Well, I wonder what on earth my man Gripus is up to—he went off to the fishing late at night. Gad! he would have had more sense, if he had slept in his bed at home. For as it is, he's fooling away his energies, and his nets too, to judge by the weather now and over-night. I'll fry on my fingers his whole day's catch, there's such a heavy sea running. But here's my wife, calling me to lunch. I'll to the house. She'll soon be stuffing my ears with her empty chatter. (Exit DAEMONES.)

SCENE II.

(Enter GRIPUS from the shore, L.)

GR. Thanks be to Neptune for this—my patron Neptune—tenant of the salt and fishy deep. He has sped me home from his domain with a splendid haul, and laden with rich booty. My smack, too, is safe and sound; though there was a heavy sea on, it brought me a strange take and a rich one. It's marvellous and past belief, the lucky catch that I've had. And yet I haven't taken an ounce weight this day, barring what I carry here in the net. I jumped with right good will out of bed, at dead of night, thinking more of gain

Lucrum praeposui sopori et quieti :
 Tempestate saeva experiri expetui,
 Paupertatem eri qui et meam seruitutem
 Tolerarem : opera haud fui parcus mea.
 Nimis homo nihilist si quis piger est, nimisque id genus
 odi ego male malacum. 920
 Vigilare decet hominem qui uolt sua temperi conficere
 officia :
 Non enim illum expectare id oportet, dum erus se ad
 suum suscitet officium.
 Nam qui dormiunt lubenter, sine lucro et cum malo quie-
 scunt.
 Nam ego nunc mihi qui inpiger fui,
 Repperi ut piger si uelim siem.
 Hoc ego hic in mari, quidquid est repperi,
 Quidquid est, graue quidemst : 925
 Aurum hic ego inesse reor. nec mi conscius est ullus
 homo : nunc haec
 Tibi occasio, Gripe, opigh ut *liber eas ex praetore et
 populo.
 Nunc sic faciam, sic consillumst : ad erum veniam docte
 atque astu.
 Pauxillatim pollicitabor pro capite argentum, ut sim liber.
 Iam ubi liber ero, igitur demum mi instruam agrum atque
 aedis, mancipia : 930
 Nauibus magnis mercaturam faciam, apud reges rex per-
 hibeor.
 Post animi causa mihi nauem faciam atque imitabor Stra-
 tonicum :
 Oppida circumuectabor. ubi nobilitas mea erit clara,
 Oppidum magnum conmoenibo : ei ego urbi Gripo in-
 dam nomen,
 Monumentum meae famae et factis, ibi regnum mag-
 num instituam. 935
 Magnas res hic agito in mentem instruere. hunc nunc
 uidlum condam.
 Sed hic rex cum aceto pransurust et sale, sine bono pul-
 mento.

than of sleep and rest. It was foul weather, but I was bent on trying to make things easier for my poor master and his slave as well. I did not spare myself, I tell you. A lazy servant is not worth his salt—that's the kind I utterly abominate. You must do with little sleep, if you mean to get through with your work betimes. You can't wait for your master to prod you on to your work. Why, your lie-a-bed makes nothing by his snoozing, and suffers for it. Look at me, now! I was up and doing, and so I have found something that will let me take it easy, if I like. This I found in the sea—whate'er it be, 'tis wondrous heavy. Gold! there must be gold inside, and not a soul knows anything about it except myself. Now, Gripus, now's your time to get magistrate and people to give you your freedom. Here's my notion of what I'll do. I'll go to my master, like the clever crafty fellow that I am. I will make him short offers for my freedom; then, when I'm a free man I'll get me lands and houses and slaves. I'll build great liners, and do a big trade. I'll be Sir Gripus—with the best of them! Next, for my pleasure, I'll build a yacht and play Stratonicus doing the grand tour. When I have made a name for myself, I'll build a great big city and call it Gripusville, to immortalize my glorious career; there will I found a great empire. Such vast designs do I cherish in my heart. For the nonce, I shall put this wallet out of sight. (*Takes his breakfast out of his scrip and looks at it.*) But poor Sir Gripus must have vinegar and salt to his lunch and go without a relish.



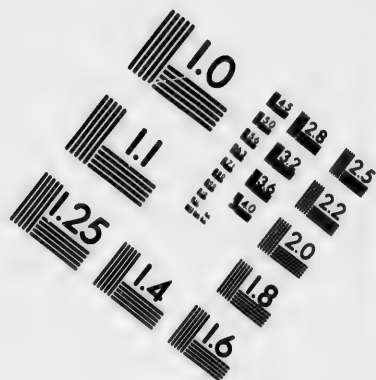
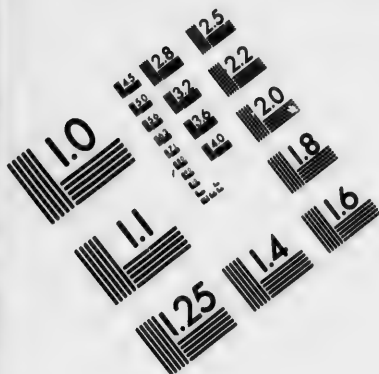
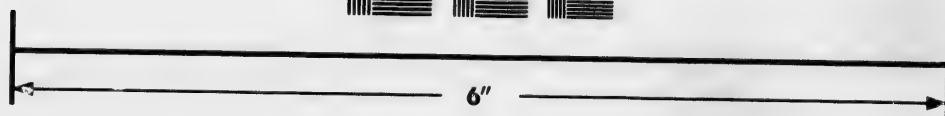
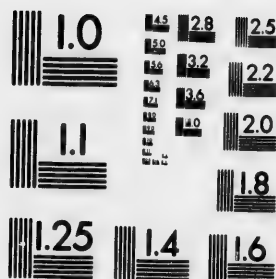


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TRACHALIO. GRIPVS.

TR. Heus mane. GR. Quid maneam? TR. Dum hanc IV 3
tibi

Quam trahis rudentem complico.

GR. Mitte modo. TR. At pol ego te adiuuo,
Nam bonis quod bene fit, haud perit.

GR. Turbida tempestas heri fuit :
Nil habeo, adulescens, piscium,

940

Ne tu mihi esse postules.
Non uides referre me uuidum
Rete sine squamoso pecu ?

TR. Non edepol piscis expeto
Quam tui sermonis sum indigens.

GR. Enicas iam odio quisquis es. TR. Non sinam
Ego abire hinc te : mane.

GR. Caue sis malo : quid tu, malum, nam me retro
retrahis? TR. Audi.

945

GR. Non audio. TR. At pol qui audies. GR. Post.
TR. Nunc. GR. Quin loquere quid uis.

Quid id est. TR. Vide, num quispiam consequitur
prope nos. GR. Nemost.

Ecquid est quod mea referat? TR. Scilicet :
Sed boni consili ecquid in te mihist?

950

GR. Quid negotist, modo dic. TR. Dicam, tace,
Si fidem modo das te non fore

Infidum, mihi. GR. Do fidem tibi :

Fidus ero, quisquis es. TR. Audi.

955

Furtum ego uidi qui faciebat :

Noram dominum id quoi fiebat.

Post ad furem egomet deuenio

Feroque ei condicionem hoc pacto :

Ego istuc factum scio quoi factumst :

Nunc mihi si uis dare dimidium,

SCENE III.

(Enter TRACHALIO from shore, L.)

TR. Holloa, you there—stop!

GR. What for?

TR. To let me coil up the rope you are dragging after you.

GR. Just you leave it alone!

TR. Confound it! I'm helping you. A good turn done to a good fellow is never thrown away.

GR. There was quite a storm yesterday. Nary a fish have I got, young man; don't you be looking for any. It's a drenched net that I'm taking home—don't you see?—none of the finny tribe.

TR. Gad-zooks! I don't want any of your fish. I just want a little talk with you.

GR. I loathe the very sight of you, whoever you are.

TR. I won't let you go off. Stop!

GR. You had better take care. Why the deuce are you hanging on to me?

TR. Hear me. GR. No, I won't.

TR. Gad, you shall hear me!

GR. By-and-bye. TR. Now!

GR. Well, tell me what it is you want.

TR. Make sure that nobody is dogging our steps.

GR. There is nobody. Has it anything to do with me?

TR. Why, certainly; but I am wondering if you can give me a bit of good advice.

GR. What about? Out with it!

TR. 'Sh! I'll tell you, if you will only pass your word that you'll not peach.

GR. All right, I do. I won't blab, no matter who you are.

TR. Listen! I saw a fellow stealing something, and I knew the man it belonged to. Then I make a call upon the thief, and put it to him in this way: "I know the man you stole that from. Now, if you like to go halves, I'll not tell the

Indicium domino non faciam.

Is mihi nihil etiam respondit.

Quid inde aequomst dari mihi? dimidium

Volo tu dicas. GR. Immo hercle etiam amplius:

960

Nam nisi dat, domino dicundum

Censeo. TR. Tuo consilio faciam.

Nunc aduerte animum: namque hoc omne

Attinet ad te. GR. Quid factumst?

TR. Vidulum istum quouis noui ego hominem iam

pridem. GR. Quid est?

TR. Et quo pacto periit. GR. At ego quo pacto inuen-

tust scio:

Et qui inuenit hominem noui, et dominus qui nunc

est scio:

965

Nihilo pol pluris tua hoc quam quanti illud refert mea.

Ego illum noui quouis nunc est: tu illum quouis

antehac fuit.

Hunc homo feret a me nemo: ne tu te speres pote.

TR. Non ferat, si dominus ueniat? GR. Dominus huic,

ne frustra sis,

Nisi ego nemo natust, hunc qui cepi in uenatu meo.

TR. Itane uero? GR. Ecquem esse dices in mari pis-

cem meum?

971

Quos quom capio, si quidem cepi, mei sunt: habeo

pro meis.

Nec manu adseruntur neque illinc partem quisquam

postulat.

In foro palam omnis uendo pro meis uenalibus.

Mare quidem commune certost omnibus. TR. Ad-

sentio.

975

GR. Qui minus hunc communem quaeso mihi esse oportet uidulum?

TR. In mari inuentust communi. GR. Abin inpudenter

inpudens:

Nam si istuc ius sit quod memoras, piscatores perierint.

owner." The fellow answered never a word. What, in fairness, ought I to get out of it? Half?—that's what I want you to tell me.

GR. Gad, yes! and more, too! Why, if he won't go halves you'll have to tell the owner, say I.

TR. I'll take your advice. Now, look here, it's you that are in this whole business.

GR. What's up?

TR. That wallet there—I have known its owner for ever so long.

GR. What's that?

TR. Yes, and how it was lost.

GR. Ah, but I know how it was found and I know the man that found it, and I know who owns it at this moment. That's nothing to you—any more than what you said is anything to me. I know who owns it now. You know who owned it before. Nobody will get it from me—you take your oath on that!

TR. Won't the owner get it if he should come?

GR. Owner? Never a mother's son is the owner of this, you bet! I got it at the fishing.

TR. Say you so?

GR. A fish in the water—could you call that mine? When I catch it, if I do catch it, it becomes mine. I treat it as my property. No one can lay a finger on my fishes or claim a share of them. I sell them all in open market as my own wares. The sea is surely open to everybody.

TR. It is.

GR. Then, why, I ask, shouldn't this wallet be open to me?

TR. 'Twas found in the open sea.

GR. Get out with your shameless cheek! If there's right in what you say, why, it's all up with fishermen, for the moment

Quippe quom extemplo in macellum pisces prolati
sient,

Nemo emat : suam quisque partem piscium poscant
sibi :

Dicant in mari communi captos. TR. Quid ais, inpu- 980
dens ?

Ausu's etiam comparare uidulum cum piscibus ?
Eadem tandem res uidetur ? GR. In manu non est
mea :

Vbi demisi rete atque hamum, quidquid haesit ex-
traho.

Meum quod rete atque hami nanci sunt, meum
potissimumst. 985

TR. Immo hercle haud est, si quidem quod uas exce-
pisti. GR. Philosophe.

TR. Sed tu enumquam piscatorem uidisti, uenefice,
Vidulum piscem cepisse aut protulisse ullum in fo-
rum ?

Vel te mihi monstrare oportet piscis qui sit uidulus :
Vel quod in mari non natumst neque habet squamas
ne feras.

GR. Quid, tu antehac numquam audiisti esse uidulum :
piscem ? TR. Scelus,

Nullus est. GR. Immost profecto : ego qui sum
piscator scio.

Verum raro capitur : nullus minus saepe ad terram
uenit. 995

TR. Nil agis : dare uerba speras mihi te posse, fuscifer.
Quo colorest ? GR. Hoc colore capiuntur pauxilluli :
Sunt alii puniceo corio, magni item atque atri. TR.

Scio :

Tu hercle, opino, in uidlum piscem te convortes,
nisi caues :

Fiet tibi puniceum corium, postea atrum denuo. * 1000

GR. Quod scelus hodie hoc inueni. TR. Verba facimus :
it dies.

fish is put on the market, not a soul will buy. Every one would claim his share, saying they were caught in the sea—which is open to all.

TR. What's that, you impudence? Have you the face to set a wallet on a par with fish? Do you really think it's all one?

GR. I can't control my catch. When I let down net and line, I pull up the catch, whatever it is. All's fish that comes to my net,—and it all belongs to me.

TR. No, by the powers, it does not!—when you catch a bag, for instance.

GR. O you sophist!

TR. But you, you miracle-monger, have you ever seen a fisherman catch a wallet-fish or put one on the market? You must either show me what a wallet-fish is like, or else you'll not walk off with a thing that wasn't grown in the sea and hasn't got scales.

GR. What! Have you never heard tell of the wallet-fish till now?

TR. You rascal!—there's no such thing!

GR. Yes, but there is! I'm a fisherman, and I know. But 't isn't often caught. There's no fish they take so few of.

TR. Bosh! Do you think you are able to gull me, you gallows-bird? What colour is it?

GR. It's only quite little ones that are caught of this colour. There are others with a bright red skin, big ones, and there are black ones too.

TR. Yes, yes. I' faith, I've a notion that you'll be turning into a wallet-fish unless you look out. That hide of yours will be red, yes, and black and blue too.

- Vide sis, quouis arbitratu facere nos uis. GR. Viduli
Arbitratu ita fit. TR. Enimuero stultus es. GR.
Salue, Thales.
- TR. Tu istunc hodie non feres, nisi das sequestrum aut
arbitrum,
Quouis haec res arbitratu fiat. GR. Quaeso sanum es?
- TR. Elleborosus sum. GR. At ego cerritus: hunc non
amittam tamen. 1006
- Vis pugnare? TR. Quid opust? quin tu potius
praedam diuide.
- GR. Abeo ego hinc. TR. At ego hinc offlectam nauem,
ne quo abeas: mane.
- GR. Si tu proreta isti naui's, ego gubernator ero.
Mitte rudentem, sceleste. TR. Mittam: omitte
uidulum. 1015
- GR. Numquam hercle hinc hodie ramenta fies fortunator.
TR. Non probare pernegando mihi potes, nisi pars datur
Aut ad arbitrum reditur aut sequestro ponitur.
- GR. Quemne ego excepi in mari — TR. At ego in-
spectaui e litore.
- GR. Mea opera labore et rete et horia. TR. Numqui
minus, 1020
- Si ueniat nunc dominus quouist, ego qui inspectaui
procul
- Te hunc habere, fur sum quam tu? GR. Nihilo.
- TR. Mane, mastigia:
Quo argumento socius non sum et fur suum, facdum
ex te sciam.
- GR. Nescio: neque ego istas uostras leges urbanas scio,
Nisi quia hunc meum esse dico. TR. Et ego item
esse aio meum. 1025
- GR. Mane: rem repperi quo pacto nec fur nec socius
sies.
- TR. Quo pacto? GR. Sine me hinc abire: tu abi taci-
tus tuam uiam,

GR. Here's a pretty mess I'm in to-day !

TR. We're wasting words. Time's flying. See here, now !
By whose decision are we to settle the matter ?

GR. The wallet's. TR. Really, you are an ass.

GR. I bow to you, Sir Thales.

TR. That wallet you shan't walk off with this day, unless
you name a receiver or arbitrator to settle the matter.

GR. I say, are you in your right mind ?

TR. I am mad enough.

GR. And I stark mad, but not so mad as to let go this
wallet. Do you want to fight ?

TR. What's the use. Hadn't we better go halves ?

GR. Now I'm off (*going off*.)

TR. But I will put the ship about, so that you'll have to
bring up where you are.

GR. If you are to be bow-oar aboard this craft of yours, I'll
take the helm. Let go the rope, you rascal.

TR. I will : you drop the wallet.

GR. Gad-zooks ! you will never be one scrap the better for
this to-day.

TR. Say "no" as often as you like, you can't get over me—
unless you go shares or refer the matter to an arbitrator or
put the article in the hands of a receiver.

GR. What, when 'twas I that fished it up at sea—

TR. But 'twas I that watched you from the shore.

GR. With my own toil and trouble, with my own net
and my own boat ?

TR. But if the owner were now to come, should I be
any the less a thief than you, when I stood by and watched
you keeping his property ? GR. Not a whit ! (*starts off again*.)

TR. Stop, you scoundrel ! Just let me hear from you how
you prove that I'm not to share and yet am a thief.

GR. Can't say ; I know nothing about those city laws
of yours. All I say is that this is mine.

TR. And I just as much say it's mine. GR. Stop now, I
see how to work it ; you needn't be a thief or get a share either.

Nec tu me quouquam indicassis neque ego tibi quicquam dabo.

Tu taceto: ego mussitabo. hoc optimum atque aequissimumst.

TR. Ecquid condicionis audes ferre? GR. Iam dudum fero: 1030

Vt abeas, rudentem amittas, mihi molestus ne sies.

TR. Mane, dum refero condicionem. GR. Te, opsecro hercle, aufer modo.

TR. Ecquem in his locis nouisti? GR. Oportet uicinos meos.

TR. Vbi tu hic habitas? GR. Porro illic longe usque in campis ultimis.

TR. Vin qui in hac uilla habitat eius arbitratu fieri? 1035

GR. Paulisper remitte restem, dum concedo et consulo.

TR. Fiat. GR. Euge, salua res est: praeda haec perpetuast mea.

Ad meum erum arbitrum uocat me hic intra praesepis meas.

Numquam hercle hodie abiudicabit ab suo triobulum.

Ne iste hauscit quam condicionem tetulerit: cibo arbitrum. 1040

TR. Quid igitur? GR. Quamquam istunc esse iure meum certo scio,

Fiat istuc potius quam nunc pugnem tecum. TR. Nunc places.

GR. Quamquam ad ignotum arbitrum me adpellis, si adhibebit fidem,

Etsi ignotust, notus: si non, notus ignotissumust.

TR. How do you work it?

GR. Let me be gone; you go your own way and keep it close. Don't you give me away to anybody and I won't give anything away to you. You hold your tongue; I'll keep mum—that's fair and square.

TR. Won't you make an offer?

GR. I've been doing so this long time. You be off! Drop the rope, and don't bother me.

TR. Stop, while I make an offer to *you*.

GR. Faith, I only wish you'd offer to be off.

TR. Do you know anyone here about?

GR. My neighbours, of course.

TR. Where do you live?

GR. Away there ever so far—quite on the edge of the flats.

TR. Will you let the man who lives in this house settle the matter?

GR. Let go the rope a bit, while I just go off and think it over.

TR. (*Lets go the rope.*) Very well.

GR. (*aside.*) Bravo! we're all right! I've bagged this thing for good. It is my master that our friend here is making our arbitrator. I'll be on my own ground here. Never in the world will he give it against his own man to-day, even for a farthing. Sure enough, he has no idea what sort of proposal he has made. I'm on for the umpire.

TR. Well, then?

GR. I'm quite clear that the wallet is mine by right, but rather than fight you, I'll let you have your way.

TR. I like you now. GR. Although the umpire you're taking me to is a stranger to me, yet if he acts on the square, however strange he may be, he's my friend; if he doesn't, friend though he be, I'll have none of him.

DAEMONES. PALAESTRA ET AMPELISCA. (LORARI.)
GRIPVS. TRACHALIO.

DAE. Serio edepol, quamquam volui, vos quae uoltis IV 4
mulieres, 1045
Metuo propter uos ne uxor mea me extrudat aedibus.

Vos confugite in aram potius quam ego. PA. et
AM. Miserac periiimus.

DAE. Ego uos saluas sistam: ne timete. sed quid uos
foras

Prosequimini? quoniam ego adsum, faciet nemo
iniuriam.

Ite, inquam, domum ambo nunciam ex praesidio 1050
praesides.

GR. O ere salue. DAE. Salue, Gripe. quid fit? TR.
Tuost hic? GR. Haud pudet.

TR. Nihil ago tecum. GR. Abi hinc sis ergo. TR.
Quaeso responde, senex:

Tuos hic seruost? DAE. Meus est. TR. Em,
istuc optume, quando tuost.

Iterum te saluto. DAE. Et ego te. tun'es, qui haud
multo prius

Abiisti hinc erum arcessitum? TR. Ego is sum. 1055
DAE. Quid nunc uis tibi?

TR. Nempe hic tuos est? DAE. Meus est. TR. Istuc
optume, quando tuost.

DAE. Quid negotist? TR. Vir scelestus illic est. DAE.
Quid fecit tibi

Vir scelestus? GR. Homini ego isti talos suffringi
uolo.

DAE. Quid est qua de re litigatis nunc inter uos? TR.
Eloquar. 1060

GR. Immo ego eloquar? TR. Ego opinor rem faces-
so. GR. Si quidem

SCENE IV.

(Enter DAEMONES, PALAESTRA and AMPELISCA
from the cottage, R.)

DAE. Well now, really, ladies, although I am quite ready to oblige you, I'm afraid my wife will show me the door because of you. I'd rather *you* took refuge at the altar—not I.

PA. and AM. Alas, we're undone! (*They go to the altar.*)

DAE. I'll see you through—never fear. (*To his servants*) But why are you following us about? Now *I'm* here myself, no one will harm them. Home with you both,—you're off duty now. GR. Good-day, sir.

DAE. Good-day, Gripus. What is it?

TR. Is this fellow a slave of yours?

GR. Yes, and no shame to me.

TR. I'm not talking to you.

GR. Well, then, be off and away!

TR. Pray answer my question, sir: is he a slave of yours?

DAE. Yes, he is.

TR. So, so! Capital! He belongs to you, does he? Let me again bid you good-morning.

DAE. The same to you. It was you, wasn't it, who went off to fetch your master a little while ago?

TR. The same.

DAE. Well, what do you want now?

TR. So he is one of your slaves?

DAE. He is.

TR. Capital! He belongs to you?

DAE. Why, what's the matter?

TR. The man is a rogue.

DAE. Why, what has the rogue done to you?

TR. I'd like to see every bone in his body broken.

DAE. What's the matter? What are you squabbling about now? TR. I'll tell you.

GR. No, I'll tell you. TR. I lead off in the case, I think,

Sis pudicus, hinc facessas. DAE. Gripe, animum
aduorte ac tace.

GR. Vtin istic prius dicat? DAE. Audi. loquere tu.

GR. Alienon prius

Quam tuo dabis orationem? TR. Ut nequitur
conprimi.

Ita ut ocepi dicere, illum quem dudum e fano
foras

1065

Lenonem extrusisti, hic eius uidulum eccillum tenet.

GR. Non habeo. TR. Negas quod oculis uideo? GR.

At ne uideas uelim.

Habeo—non habeo: quid tu me curas quid rerum
geram?

TR. Quo modo habeas, id mea refert, iurene anne iniuria.

GR. Ni istum cepi, nulla causast quin me condones
cruci.

1070

Si in mari reti prehendi, qui tuom potiust quam
meum?

TR. Verba dat: hoc modo res gestasti, ut ego dico.

GR. Quid tu ais?

TR. Quod primarius uir dicat, conprime hunc sis, si
tuost:

GR. Quid? tu idem mihi uis fieri, quod erus consueuit
tibi?

Si ille te conprimere solitust, hic nos noster non
solet.

1075

DAE. Verbo illo modo ille uicit. quid nunc tu uis? dic
mihi.

TR. Equidem ego neque partem posco mihi istinc de
istoc uidulo

Neque meum esse hodie umquam dixi: sed isti
inest cistellula

Huius mulieris, quam dudum dixi fuisse liberam.

DAE. Nempe tu hanc dicis, quam esse aiebas dudum
popularem meam?

1080

GR. If you had any sense of shame, you'd lead yourself off. DAE. Attention, Gripus! Hold your tongue!

GR. What, and let him speak first?

DAE. (*to GRIPUS*). Do you listen. (*to TRACHALIO*). Speak you.

GR. You are going to let another man's slave have the first word, before your own?

TR. There's no stopping him. As I was saying, he has got hold of a wallet belonging to the dealer whom you turned out of the temple a little while ago.

GR. No, I haven't.

TR. Do you say "no," when I see it with my own eyes?

GR. (*aside*.) Plague take your eyes! Suppose I have, suppose I haven't, why should you be minding my business?

TR. The question is how you came by it—rightly or wrongly.

GR. If it wasn't a lawful take, I'll give you leave to hand me over to the hangman. If I fished it up in my net at sea, how can it be yours more than mine?

TR. That's all gammon! The thing happened according to my account of it.

GR. How say you? TR. Till the first speaker has had his say, shut this fellow up, please, if he is your servant.

GR. I daresay you want me to get what your master is always giving you. It may be his way to be always shutting you up, but that's not so with us.

DAE. Ha, that's one for you! But what do you really want now?

TR. Well, I don't ask to go shares in that wallet, and I have never said that it is my property; but it contains a casket belonging to the woman whom I have been telling you is free-born.

DAE. You mean the one, don't you, of whom you were saying that she was a country-woman of mine?

TR. Admodum : et ea quae olim parua gestauit cre-
pundia

Isti in ista cistula insunt, quae isti inest in uidulo.

Hoc neque istic usust et illi miserae suppetias feret,
Si id dederit, qui suos parentis quaerat. DAE.

Faciam ut det : tace.

GR. Nihil hercle ego sum isti daturus. TR. Nil peto
nisi cistulam

Et crepundia. GR. Hem, quid si ea sunt aurea ?

TR. Quid istuc tua ?

Aurum auro expendetur, argentum argento exae-
quabitur.

GR. Fac sis aurum ut uideam : post ego faciam ut
uideas cistulam.

DAE. Caue malo ac tace tu : tu perge ut occepisti dicere.

TR. Vnum te obsecro, ut ted huius commiserescat
mulieris,

Si quidem hic lenonis eiust uidulus, quem suspicor.

Hic nisi de opinione certum nil dico tibi.

GR. Viden scelestus aucupatur ? TR. Sine me ut oc-
cepi loqui.

Si scelesti illius est hic quouis dico uidulus,

Haec poterunt nouisse : ostendere his iube. GR.

Ain ? ostendere ?

DAE. Haud iniquom dicit, Gripe, ut ostendatur uidulus.

GR. Immo hercle insignite inique. DAE. Quidum ?

GR. Quia, si ostendero,

Continuo hunc nouisse dicent scilicet. TR. Scele-
rum caput,

Vt tute's item omnis censes esse ? periuri caput.

DAE. Cedo modo mi uidulum istum, Gripe. GR. Conce-
dam tibi :

At, si istorum nil sit, ut mihi reddas. DAE. Red-
detur. GR. Tene.

DAE. Audi nunciam, Palaestra atque Ampelisca, hoc
quod loquor :

TR. Quite so, and the toys that she had when quite a little girl are in the casket that is inside the wallet. They are of no use to him, but if he hands them over, they will be of great assistance to this poor girl in her search for her parents.

DAE. Enough, I'll make him hand them over.

GR. Not a scrap will I hand over to him.

TR. All I ask for, is the casket and the toys.

GR. Well, but what if they're all gold?

TR. What's that to you? You should have gold for gold, and for silver an equal weight of silver.

GR. Let me see the colour of your gold and then I'll let you have a look at the casket.

DAE. Look out, Gripus, and hold your tongue! Do you go on with your story.

TR (*to DAE.*) One thing I ask: that you will have pity on this girl, if this wallet really belongs to the dealer, as I fancy it does. So far I am only conjecturing; I can't say positively.

GR. Mark how the rogue is setting his snares.

TR. Just you let me go on. If the wallet belongs to the rogue I was speaking about, surely these girls will know it. Tell him to show it them.

GR. What! Show it?

DAE. It's quite fair, Gripus, to ask that the wallet be shown.

GR. Not at all! It's the height of unfairness.

DAE. How so?

GR. Because if I show it, they will say right off, of course, that they know it.

TR. Thou sink of iniquity! Dost think that everybody is like thyself? Thou prince of liars!

DAE. Here with that wallet, Gripus!

GR. I'll let you have it, but on condition that you'll give it me back, if it does not contain what you say.

DAE. Good! You shall have it. GR. There!

DAE. (*to PALAESTRA and AMPELISCA.*) Listen, now, to what I

Estne hic uidlus, ubi cistellam tuam inesse aiebas?

PA. Is est.

GR. Perii hercle ego miser: tu prius quam plane 1130
aspexisti, ilico

Eum esse dixti. PA. Faciam ego hanc rem ex pro-
cliui planam tibi.

Cistellam isti inesse oportet caudeam in isto uidulo:

Ibi ego dicam quidquid inerit nominatim: tu mihi

Nullum ostenderis. si falsa dicam, frustra dixero: 1135

Vos tamen istaec quidquid inerit vobis omne
habebitis.

Si erunt uera, tum obsecro te, ut mea mi reddantur.

DAE. Placet:

Ius merum oras meo quidem animo. GR. At meo
hercle inius merum.

Quid, si ista aut superstitiosa aut hariolast atque
omnia

Quidquid inerit uera dicet? anne habebit hariola? 1140

DAE. Non feret, nisi uera dicet: nequiquam hariolabitur.

Solue uidulum ergo, ut quid sit uerum quam
primum sciam.

TR. Hoc habet. GR. Solutust perii: uideo cistellam.

DAE. Haccinest?

PA. Istaec est. o mei parentes, hic uos conclusos gero:

Huc opesque spesque uostrum cognoscendum con-
didi. 1145

GR. Tum tibi hercle deos iratos esse oportet, quisquis es,

Quae parentis tam in angustum tuos locum conpe-
geris.

DAE. Gripe, accede huc: tua res agitur: tu, puella, istinc
procul

Dicito quid insit et qua facie: memorato omnia.

Si hercle tantillum peccassis, quod posterius po-
stules 1150

Te ad uerum conuorti, nugas, mulier, magnas
egeris.

say. Is this the wallet which you said contained your casket?

PA. It is.

GR. Alas, I'm quite done for! You declared it was yours right away on the spot, before you had a fair look at it.

PA. I'll make all this plain sailing for you. There should be a wooden casket in the wallet. I'll give you a list of its contents, one after another—don't show me any of them. If I go wrong, I shall have lost my breath in vain! But, all the same, you will get back everything that's in the wallet. If I am right, then I beg that you will hand back to me what is mine.

DAE. Agreed! Your request is only right to my thinking.

GR. Gad, to my thinking, it's all wrong. What if she is a witch or a wise woman and can tell everything that's in the casket without a mistake! Are we to let the things go to a witch?

DAE. No, she won't get it unless she is correct. Her witchcraft will be all in vain. Now, untie the wallet and let us know at once how matters stand.

TR. That's one for Gripus!

GR. Untied it is; I'm done for! There's the casket.

DAE. What, is this it?

PA. That's it. Dear parents mine, for me ye are underneath that lid. There did I store away the means and hope of finding you.

GR. Then, if faith, the Gods must be wrath with you, whoever you are, for having crammed your father and mother into so small a space.

DAE. Come here, Gripus, this touches you. You, young lady, stand where you are and tell us the contents, and say what each is like. Don't omit anything. If you make the least slip, egad, and then expect to put yourself right afterwards, you will have utterly wasted your breath, my girl.

- PA. Ius bonum oras. GR. Edepol haud recte orat : nam
tu iniuriu's.
- DAE. Loquere nunciam, puella. Gripe, animum aduerte
ac tace.
- PA. Sunt crepundia. DAE. Ecce uideo. GR. Perii in
primo proelio :
- Mane : ne ostenderis. DAE. Qua facie sunt ? re-
sponde ex ordine. 1155
- PA. Ensiculust aureolus primum litteratus. DAE. Di-
cedum,
- In eo ensiculo litterarum quid est ? PA. Mei
nomen patris.
- Post altrinsecust securicula ancipes, itidem aurea,
Litterata : ibi matris nomen in securiculast. 1160
- DAE. Mane :
- Dic in ensiculo quid nomen est paternum ? PA.
Daemones.
- DAE. Di immortales, ubi loci sunt spes meae ? GR. Im-
mo edepol meae ?
- TR. Pergite, opsecro, continuo. GR. Placide, aut in
malam crucem.
- DAE. Loquere matris nomen hic quid in securicula siet.
- PA. Daedalis. DAE. Di me seruatum cupiunt. GR. At
me perditum.
- DAE. Filiam meam esse hanc oportet, Gripe. GR. Sit
per me quidem. 1165
- Qui te di omnes perdant, qui me hodie oculis uidisti
tuis,
- Meque adeo scelestum, qui non circumspexi cen-
tiens
- Prius, me nequis inspectaret, quam rete extraxi ex
aqua.
- PA. Post id sicilicula argenteola et duae conexae mani-
culae et
- Sucula. GR. Quin tu i di directa cum sucula et cum
porculis. 1170

GR. That's quite fair.

TR. No, by my troth, it's not—you're going beyond all bounds.

DAE. Now, girl, speak. Gripus, you attend and keep quiet.

PA. There are toys.

DAE. Yes, I see them.

GR. I'm knocked out in the first round. Hold hard! don't let her see them.

DAE. What are they like? Go through the list.

PA. First of all, there is a little gold sword with writing on it.

DAE. Say what the writing is.

PA. My father's name. Then in another corner there's a little two-handed axe, also of gold, and with writing on it: that gives my mother's name.

DAE. Stop! what's your father's name on the sword.

PA. *Daemones*.

DAE. Immortal powers! what may I look for next?

GR. Yes, egad, and what may I?

TR. Go on, for goodness' sake; don't wait.

GR. Gently, gently, now, or plague take you! Tell us what's your mother's name on the axe.

PA. *Daedalis*.

DAE. The gods have my welfare at heart.

GR. (*aside*) Yes, and my destruction.

DAE. This must be my daughter, Gripus.

GR. (*to DAEMONES*.) Yes, for all I care. (*to TRACHALIO*.) And may all the gods confound you for having set eyes on me this day,—yes, and confound me, too, ass that I was, for not looking round a score of times to see that nobody was watching before I hauled my net out of the water.

PA. A little silver sickle and two tiny hands, clasped together, and a windlass.

GR. Go to the deuce with your windlass and your windy talk.

PA. Et bulla aureast, pater quam dedit mi natali die.

DAE. East profecto : contineri quin conplectar non queo.
Filia mea, salue : ego is sum qui te produxi pater :
Ego sum Daemones, et mater tua eccam hic intus

Daedalis.

PA. Salue, mi pater insperate. DAE. Salue : ut te am-
plector lubens.

1175

TR. Volup est quom istuc ex pietate uostra uobis con-
tigit.

DAE. Capedum hunc, si potes, fer intro uidulum, age,
Trachalio.

TR. Ecce Gripi scelera : quom istaec res male euenit
tibi,

Gripe, gratulor. DAE. Age eamus, mea gnata, ad
matrem tuam,

Quae ex te poterit argumentis hanc rem magis ex-
quire :

1180

Quae te magis tractauit magisque signa pernouit
tua.

TR. Eamus intro omnes simul, quando operam pro-
miscam damus.

PA. Sequere me, Ampelisca. AM. Quom te di amant,
uoluptatist mihi.

GR. Sumne ego homo scelestus, qui illunc hodie excepi
uidulum ?

Aut quom excepi, qui non alicubi in solo abstrusi
loco ?

1185

Credebam edepol turbulentam praedam euenturam
mihi,

Quia illa mihi tam turbulenta tempestate euenerat.

Credo edepol ego illic inesse argenti et auri largiter.

Quid meliust quam ut hinc intro abeam et me sus-
pendam clanculum,

Saltem tantisper dum abscedat haec a me aegri-
monia ?

1190

PA. There's a golden locket, too, which my father gave me on my birthday.

DAE. 'Tis she, without a doubt. I cannot keep from clasping her in my arms. Bless you, my daughter! I am the father that reared you. I am Daemones, and see, your mother, Daedalis, is indoors here.

PA. Bless you, my father, whom I never hoped to see!

DAE. Bless you! and glad I am to hold you in my arms.

TR. I am delighted that your goodness should have brought you such good luck.

DAE. Ho, Trachalio, see if you can take this wallet and carry it indoors.

TR. Poor old Gripus! Best congratulations, Gripus, on your bad luck!

DAE. Come, daughter, let us go to your mother. She will be the one to sift this business and make it all clear; she had more to do with your up-bringing, and she will know your tokens off by heart.

TR. Indoors, then, all of us, since we all have a hand in the affair.

PA. Follow me, Ampelisca.

AM. I am delighted that heaven sends you such luck.

(Exeunt all, except GRIPUS into cottage, R.)

GR. Am not I an ass for fishing up that wallet this day, or rather for not hiding it away in some corner after I had fished it up? Faith, I thought it would turn out a troublesome haul for me, seeing it had turned up in such troublous weather. Faith, I think it must have a lot of gold and silver inside it. Best for me to go away home and hang myself on the quiet—well, at all events, till I can put this chagrin from me. *(Exit GRIPUS into cottage, R.)*

DAEMONES.

Pro di immortales, quis mest fortunatior,
 Qui ex inproviso filiam inueni meam ? IV 5
 Satin si quoi homini dei esse bene factum uolunt,
 Aliquo illud pacto optingit optatum piis ?
 Ego hodie, neque speraui neque illud credidi ;
 Is inproviso filiam inueni tamen ; 1196
 Et eam de genere summo adulescenti dabo
 Ingenuo, Atheniensi et cognato meo.
 Eum adeo arcessi huc ad me quam primum uolo
 Iussique exire huc eius seruom, ut ad forum 1200
 Iret. nondum egressum esse eum, id miror tamen.
 Accedam opinor ad fores. quid conspicer ?
 Vxor complexa collo retinet filiam.
 Nimis paene inepta atque odiosa eius amatiost.

DAEMONES. TRACHALIO.

DAE. Aliquando osculando meliust, uxor, pausam fieri : IV 6
 Atque adorna ut rem diuinam faciam, quom intro
 aduenero, 1206
 Laribus familiaribus, quom auxerunt nostram fami-
 liam.
 Sunt domi agni et porci sacres. sed quid istum
 remoramini,
 Mulieres, Trachalionem ? atque optume eccum exit
 foras.
 TR. Vbi ubi erit, iam inuestigabo et mecum ad te ad-
 ducam simul 1210
 Plesidippum. DAE. Eloquere ut haec res optigit
 de filia.
 Eum roga ut relinquat alias res et huc ueniat. TR.
 Licet.

SCENE V.

(Enter DAEMONES from cottage, R.)

DAE. Immortal powers, was ever man more blest than I, who never expected to have found my child? Surely, when Heaven is ready to show favour to men, good people somehow get the good they wish. As for me this day—I never hoped or looked for this—and yet, unexpectedly, I have found my child. And now I'll give her to a youth of the best family, a noble Athenian and a kinsman of my own. I should like to have him brought to me here at once, and have told his servant to start out and go to the forum. I am surprised he has not set out by now. I'll to the door, I think. What is this I see? My wife has clasped our daughter to her breast, and is holding her there. This fondling is out of place, and almost more than I can stand.

SCENE VI.

DAE. (*to his wife within*). 'Twere well, good wife, to bring this hugging to an end, and get things ready for me to offer sacrifice, when I come indoors, to our household gods for favours shown to our house. We have lambs and porkers for an offering. (*to women within*.) But why are you keeping Trachalio back, good women? Ah, here he comes, just in the nick of time. (*Enter TRACHALIO from cottage, R.*)

TR. Wherever Plesidippus may be, I'll hunt him up and bring him to you along with me.

DAE. Tell him this bit of luck about my child. Ask him to drop everything else, and come here.

TR. Yes, sir.

DAE. Dicitō ~~datum~~ meam illi filiam uxorem. TR.
Licet.

DAE. Et patrem eius me ~~nomis~~se et mihi esse cognatum.
TR. Licet.

DAE. Sed propera. TR. Licet. DAE. Iam hic fac sit,
cena ut curetur. TR. Licet.

DAE. Omnia licet? TR. Licet. sed scin quid est quod
te uolo? 1215

Quod promisisti ut memineris, hodie ut liber sim.

DAE. Licet.

TR. Fac ut exores Plesidippum, ut me manu emittat.

DAE. Licet.

TR. Et tua filiā facito oret: facile exorabit. DAE.

Licet.

TR. Atque ut mi Ampelisca nubat, ubi ego sim liber.

DAE. Licet.

1220

TR. Atque ut gratum mi beneficium factis experiar.

DAE. Licet.

TR. Omnia licet? DAE. Licet. tibi rursum refero
gratiam.

Sed propera ire in urbem actutum et recipe te huc
rursum. TR. Licet.

Iam hic ero. tu interibi adorna ceterum quod opust.

DAE. Licet.

Hercules istum infelicet cum sua licentia:

1225

Ita meas repleuit auris, quidquid memorabam, 'licet.'

GRIPVS. DAEMONES.

GR. Quam mox licet te conpellare, Daemones?

IV 7

DAE. Quid est negoti, Gripe? GR. De illo uidulo,
Si sapias, sapias: habens quod di dant boni.

DAE. Aequom uidetur tibi, ut ego alienum quod est

1230

Meum esse dicam? GR. Quodne ego inueni in
mari?

DAE. And that I'll let him have my girl to wife.

TR. Yes, sir.

DAE. And that I know his father and that he is a relative of mine. TR. Yes, sir.

DAE. But hurry up! TR. Yes, sir.

DAE. And tell them here to get dinner ready at once.

TR. Yes, sir.

DAE. Nothing but "Yes, sir's?"

TR. Yes, sir. But I say, do you know what I want? I want you to remember your promise to get me my freedom this day. DAE. Yes, sir.

TR. And make your daughter ask my master; she will easily get it out of him.

DAE. Yes, sir.

TR. And I want Ampelisca to marry me when I am free.

DAE. Yes, sir.

TR. And I hope I may get a substantial reward for my services. DAE. Yes, sir.

TR. Nothing but "yes, sir's."

DAE. Yes, sir, I am paying you back in your own coin. But hurry up to town at once, and haste you back again.

TR. Yes, sir. I'll be back directly. Meanwhile do you see to all that's wanted. (*Exit TRACHALIO to town, L.*)

DAE. "Yes, sir!" Plague take the knave, so free is he with "yes, sir's;" for every word of mine, my ears were dinned with "yes, sir's."

SCENE VII.

(*Enter GRIPUS from cottage, R.*)

GR. Can I have a word with you, Daemones?

DAE. What's the matter, Gripus?

GR. As to that wallet, stick to what heaven sends you; no nonsense, now.

DAE. Is it fair, do you think, Gripus, to claim as mine what's another's?

GR. Why, I found it in the sea.

- DAE. Tanto illi melius optigit qui perdidit :
 Tuom esse nihilo magis oportet uidulum.
- GR. Isto tu's pauper, quom nimis sancte piu's.
- DAE. O Gripe Gripe, in aetate hominum plurumae
 Fiunt transennae, ubi decipiuntur dolis. 1236
 Atque edepol in eas plerumque esca inponitur :
 Quam siquis auidus poscit escam auariter,
 Decipitur in transenna auaritia sua.
 Ille qui consulte, docte atque astute cauet, 1240
 Diutine uti bene licet partum bene.
 Mī istaec uidetur praeda praedatum irier,
 Ut cum maiore dote abeat quam aduenerit.
 Egone ut quod ad me adlatum esse alienum sciam
 Celem ? minume istuc faciet noster Daemones. 1245
 Semper cauere hoc sapientis aequissumumst,
 Ne conscii sint ipsi malefici suis.
- GR. Spectaui ego pridem comicos ad istum modum
 Sapienter dicta dicere atque is plaudier, 1250
 Quom illos sapientis mores monstrabant poplo.
 Sed quom inde suam quisque ibant diuorsi domum,
 Nullus erat illo pacto ut illi iusserant.
- DAE. Abi intro, nam molestus : linguae tempera.
 Ego tibi daturus nil sum, ne tu frustra sis. 1255
- GR. At ego deos quaeso, ut quidquid in illo uidulost,
 Si aurum, si argentumst, omne id ut fiat cinis.
- DAE. Illuc est quod nos nequam seruis utimur.
 Nam illic servos si cum iniquo congressus foret,
 Et ipsum sese et illum furti astringeret. 1260
 Dum praedam habere se censeret, interim
 Praeda ipsus esset : praeda praedam duceret.
 Nunc hinc intro ibo et sacrificabo : postibi
 Iubebo nobis cenam continuo coqui.
- CANTOR. Nunc, spectatores, bene valet et plaudite.

DAE. So much the better luck for the man who lost it ; but that doesn't make the wallet any more your property.

GR. That's why you're a poor man—you're too much of a saint for this world.

DAE. Ah, Gripus, Gripus ; man's life is everywhere beset with snares, wherein he is craftily caught. And in good sooth most of them are baited with a tempting morsel, and whoso in his greed greedily snaps at the bait is taken in the snare for very greed. But whoso warily, cleverly and craftily takes heed, to him it is given long to enjoy what has been well earned. That prize of yours, I fancy, will be so made prize of as to bring a greater blessing in its going than in its coming. (*indignantly.*) What, am I the man to conceal what I know was another's property before it came to me? Far, indeed, will that be from the Daemones I know. It is the bounden duty of wise masters ever to be on their guard against being privy to the wrong-doing of their people.

GR. I have lately heard players utter wise saws of that sort and get applauded for it, when they preached to the people their sage maxims. But when they left the place and went, each to his own home, nobody was what they had told him to be.

DAE. Go indoors and cease your bother. Restrain your tongue. I'm not going to give you anything ; make no mistake about that !

GR. I pray heaven that everything in that wallet, be it gold or silver, will be burned to ashes. (*Exit GRIPUS into cottage, R.*)

DAE. That explains why slaves are rogues. For if that slave had happened to come across a dishonest master, he would have implicated both in theft ; while seeking to plunder others, he would find himself the plundered man—the biter would be bit. Now, I'll go away into the house, and then I'll order our dinner to be cooked at once. (*Exit DAEMONES into cottage, R.*)

CANTOR. Now, farewell, friends, and give us your applause !